

Hafa Adai!

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POLL RESULTS

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, how would you rate your level of confidence that the Interior Department would issue the workers regulations this month?

1	92
2	15
3	12
4	3
5	19

Sunday, June 12, 2011

INSIDE



Bon Voyage

San Vicente Elementary School holds a special ceremony to honor outgoing principal Joaquina Salas.

LOCAL...Page 7



Shortest Man

The son of a poor Filipino locksmith is declared as the world's shortest man.

ASIA...Page 17



Pride Rally

Lady Gaga proclaims herself a "child of diversity" at a pride rally in Rome.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20



DOING THE 'HAKA'

Visiting artists from New Zealand perform "haka," a traditional dance form of the Maori, which includes chants, stamping of feet, and facial contortions such as showing the whites of the eyes and sticking out the tongue, during the opening ceremonies for the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival at the American Memorial Park in Garapan on Saturday morning. The four-day festival, which had a soft opening on Thursday night, has become a showcase for the different islands' culture through songs, dances, chants, arts and crafts.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story and more photos on
Pages 5, 13, and 14.

Shortage of nurses plagues hospital

» **Acting nursing chief says low morale, salary concern, immigration issue among major challenges**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

From 235 nurses early last year, the Commonwealth Health Center is now down to just 175—a

significant decline that acting nursing director Gayline Blau blames on the government's low salary for this important position.

Blau said during Friday's

See **NURSES** on Page 4

president Rabby Syed wrote a letter to Obama, asking the president to grant legal nonresidents "parole-in place status with authorization to seek employment."

Syed also asks that such parole-in-place status "shall qualify them for employment-based visa applications."

The letter will be hand-delivered by

See **OBAMA** on Page 4

SAEF school downsizes, suspends grade school

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Just two years after it acquired the Saipan American Education Foundation, the institution's president and owner has announced that the school will stop offering third to eighth grade classes this new school year due to the huge losses it has been incurring.

Dr. Johnny Fong, SAEF president and

See **SAEF** on Page 4



MARRIAGE-GO-ROUND: Immigration lawyers Maya Kara and Bruce Mailman discuss problems that arise with respect to former marriages when aliens seek to adjust status based on marriage to a U.S. citizen. Go to **Page 11.**

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Local

Manabat and Melchor lead MHS' Class of 2011

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Alvijane Manabat and Holley Melchor were named the most outstanding students of Marianas High School during commencement exercises Saturday night at the campus gymnasium.

Manabat was named the school's valedictorian while Melchor was the salutatorian.

Alvijane, 18, the daughter of Albert and Joyce Manabat, will go on to college at the Guam Community College to pursue a degree in education.

"It feels great! I am so happy

that all the hard work finally paid off. I thank my family and my mentors because without their support and guidance, this is not possible [for me]," she told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the honor was unexpected.

This year, Marianas High School kept the names of its top honorees secret until the actual awarding rites itself.

Like Manabat, Melchor admitted that he didn't expect the award. However, he is proud and happy with his accomplishment.

Melchor, 17, is the son of Roderick and Marilou Melchor.



ALVIJANE MANABAT
Valedictorian



HOLLEY MELCHOR
Salutatorian

He will pursue forensic science at the Central Texas College this fall semester. Later, Melchor wants to pursue related

programs at Rice University in Texas and Tokyo University in Japan.

Board of Education chair Ma-

rylou Ada and member Herman T. Guerrero awarded this year's Board of Education Award to Manabat while Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan gave the Commissioner of Education Award to Melchor.

Acting governor Eloy Inos chose Frankie Deleon Guerrero as this year's Governor's Awardee while MHS principal Craig Garrison named Jason Charles Pangelinan as the Principal's Awardee for 2011.

Besides Manabat and Melchor, the other top 10 graduates were Grace Lee, Dowen Jocson, Eileen Echaluse, Krystal Anade, Kathleen Basa, Mi-

Ri Kim, Olivia Leung, and Michelle Marie Santos.

MHS conferred high school diplomas on 262 graduates this school year. A large bulk of the class will go on to college this fall semester.

This year's commencement theme was, "If you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you can dream it, you can become it."

Commissioner Sablan, during her inspiration message, also honored students who were accepted to the U.S. Marine Corps this year.

Saturday's graduation was also attended by U.S. Delegate Gregorio Sablan, officers of the school's PTSA, and hundreds of parents and families of the graduates.

Family of 4 sues driver for car mishap

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A family of four who was injured in a vehicular collision along Beach Road in May last year has sued the driver of the other car that allegedly swerved into oncoming traffic.

Jose V. Belnas, his wife Felisa D. Belnas, and their two children, sued Gu Hee Park for negligence. They are seeking unspecified damages, interest, and court costs.

According to the complaint, the Belnas family was aboard their 1988 Isuzu Trooper that was traveling along the outer lane of Beach Road on May 16, 2010 at 10:45am when a 2008 Toyota Scion XD being driven by Park, which was traveling north, suddenly swerved directly into Belnas' lane.

Jose Belnas, who was driving, stepped on the brakes but still hit Park's vehicle on the

passenger side.

The complaint stated that the impact was so intense that it hurt all members of the Belnas family and they had to be taken to the Commonwealth Health Center. Belnas' vehicle was also severely damaged.

A traffic crash report indicated that the Department of Public Safety had investigated the accident and had concluded that Park was at fault.

"As a proximate result of the deliberate disregard of and reckless indifference to the safety of others and negligence of Ms. Park, and her failure to comply with the CNMI traffic rules, including improper lane change, driving off the road, and failing to keep a proper lookout, plaintiffs suffered physical injuries requiring the services of physicians, nurses, and other medical and rehabilitative personnel," the complaint said.

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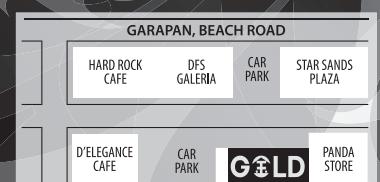
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Family of slain Marine from Rota wants justice as trial begins

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

As the trial on his son's murder case begins this week, all that David M. Santos of Rota wants is for justice to prevail for the late U.S. Marine Corporal Dave Michael Maliksi Santos.

The young Santos was allegedly murdered by a fellow Marine while deployed to Afghanistan almost a year ago.

David Santos said he will be leaving the CNMI today for Camp Lejeune in North Carolina for the trial that begins on June 16, a month before the one-year anniversary of his son's death.

"What really hurts me is that I can only hear one side of the story. I can only hear the defendant, but not my son's side of



Santos

the story. I really feel sad. I hope justice will be served," David Santos told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview from Rota.

The trial is expected to last three weeks.

David Santos said he expects to hear from the lone defendant in the case, Cpl. William Dalton, whom he saw for the first time in November last year during the preliminary hearing on the case. At the time, he said he wasn't able to talk to or hear from the defendant.

"I want to ask him 'Why? Why did you take my son's life? The confrontation lasted only five to 10 minutes, and look at what happened," the father said.

He said he hopes that the defendant, if found guilty, will serve his time.

Plane crash survivor asks to be excused from settlement talks

Bruce Berline, the attorney for a plane crash survivor, has asked the federal court to excuse his Japan-based client from personally attending a settlement conference as she is now extremely fearful of getting on a plane after the crash.

Berline said that Yoko Kamiyama is living and working in Japan and that it would be expensive for her to travel to Saipan in terms of missed work and expense.

In motions filed Friday, Berline said the recent disasters in Japan has made communication with Kamiyama difficult at times but she will be available via telephone.

The lawyer said he will have full settlement authority on Kamiyama's behalf under any terms stated at the conference.

Berline also asked the U.S.

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The defendant, according to David Santos, has been at Camp Lejeune but not inside a prison cell.

Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), the slain Marine's aunt, said the family is hoping that

justice will prevail in the case.

"The family has been waiting for this trial to begin. It's been almost a year since his death," she said.

The late corporal was allegedly stabbed in the neck on

July 16, 2010 by a fellow Marine in Marjeh, Helmand Province in Afghanistan, where he was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was 21 years old.

He left behind a wife and a

3-year-old son. He was laid to rest on July 29 on Rota, his birthplace. He grew up in his mother's country, the Philippines, before moving back to the CNMI and then joining the Marines. He last visited the island in April 2009.

235 sign up for SDA's Clinic with a Heart

As early as 1am, community members wanting to avail of free dental services gathered outside the Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic for its fourth annual Clinic with a Heart yesterday.

Clinic with a Heart happens around late May or early June and allows those who do not have insurance and Medicaid to receive free dental services.

"Our first patient, Rowena

Dimalanta, was already outside the office at 1am to line up and start a sign-up sheet that gathered 235 names," dental hygienist Lori Serna told reporters.

Serna said they opened the clinic around 6am to provide dental services that include tooth extractions and fillings. "I hate to turn people away but the need was so great," she added.

The dental services, Serna said, were provided by dentists

Kenneth Pierson, Crystal Edmister, William Shearer, Carita Berglund, Sarah-Jane Harebotte Shearer, and dental hygienists Maria Agulto, Stacy Stroup, and herself. They were joined by 12 other staff volunteers.

Pierson, who is also the clinic director, said they provided a total of 100 patients free dental treatment worth \$26,000. They also gave 42 free dental treatment vouchers to be used by

those who were not accommodated at yesterday's event.

Serna hopes that other dental clinics on island will also provide free dental services at least once a year. "We really want to encourage other dental clinics to do the same thing because there is a great need for it. That's what happened in Guam. Our clinic started it and other dental clinics followed suit," she said. (Clarissa V. David)

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OBAMA**From Page 1**

former Rota teacher and now Florida-based human rights activist Wendy Doromal to the White House this week, Syed told *Saipan Tribune*. Doromal also posted a copy of Syed's letter on her blog.

The letter is supported by over 7,000 nonresidents and supporters who signed a petition asking for a parole-in-place status.

"While we are hopeful that permanent status and a pathway to citizenship for legal aliens in the CNMI may be included in future national comprehensive immigration reform legislation, we plead with you not to wait to grant relief," Syed said in a three-page letter dated June 1.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili

NURSES**From Page 1**

proclamation of CNMI Nurses Week that the current number could go down further if solutions to nurses' concerns are not found.

She admitted that the hospital is having a "huge shortage" of nursing staff and has been lacking nurses in almost all areas of operation, including labor and delivery, which is supposed to have at least eight nurses compared to just five at present.

More nurses are also needed at the intensive care unit, which ideally must have more than 12 compared to only eight right now. Another is the medical research unit, which requires at least 18 nurses compared to only 14 onboard.

"These are just some of the areas where we are lacking the right number of nurses onboard. Besides nurses, the hospital is also lacking midwives as well

Sablan, when asked for comment yesterday, said Syed and Doromal could do what they want to do.

"I don't want to put the cart before the horse," he said in an interview at the Philippines' 113th Independence Day celebration at the Civic Center in Susupe yesterday.

Sablan has a pending bill, H.R. 1466, which proposes a "CNMI-only resident status" for four specific groups of individuals, including immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, and those who won't be covered by the transitional worker regulations.

"If it [worker regulations] doesn't get released at all [by Nov. 28], we don't need anyone to tell DHS what to do. They will not deport anyone here unless they are criminals," Sablan

as registered nurses in certain clinics," Blau told *Saipan Tribune*.

To be fully staffed, Blau believes the Commonwealth Health Center needs over 230 nurses.

Most of the time, CHC loses its nurses to private clinics, which offer attractive compensation and benefits, she said.

She admitted that delayed housing benefits for contractual employees, the low salary, and the low-morale work environment discourage nurses from staying on. This is on top of immigration issue that bar CHC from hiring non-U.S. nurses and employees.

"Many of our nurses left last year also because of the financial crisis of the government. When they left, we didn't fill many positions because those FTEs were zeroed out," said Blau, adding that health officials know about this issue but can't do anything to add more nurses due to the lack of funds.

said yesterday.

He reiterated that the CNMI-only transitional worker regulations should have been issued a long time ago. He said he has not heard of anything that indicates these regulations won't be released before Nov. 28, 2011.

Nov. 27, 2011, is the last day of the two-year period for the CNMI to transition to federalized immigration. After that, everyone who does not have some immigration status issued by the U.S. government—like the Commonwealth-only worker status—will be "out of status" and subject to deportation.

Syed said copies of his letter will also be sent to the U.S. Congress, DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano and U.S. Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony M. Babauta.

In his letter, Syed said a pa-

At present, CHC nurses earn \$33,000 to \$40,000 per annum on average; the maximum salary could go up to over \$50,000, on top of overtime pay and fringe benefits.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, the median annual wages of registered nurses in May 2008 were \$62,450. The middle 50 percent earned between \$51,640 and \$76,570. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$43,410, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$92,240.

Blau also disclosed that nurses are disappointed with the no-holiday pay and limitations on overtime hours, which contribute to their low morale.

Blau believes that until immigration and salary issues are addressed, CHC will continue to struggle to get the needed workforce.

Saipan Tribune learned that about 85 percent of hospital nurses are nonresidents.

role-in-place status is one of the options cited in a memo from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services director Alejandro Mayorkas regarding administrative relief options that could be exercised in the absence of a comprehensive reform legislation to promote family unity, foster economic growth, and remove the threat of removal for certain individuals and groups present in the U.S. without authorization.

He said for over 20 years and until the federal government took control of CNMI immi-

gration on Nov. 28, 2009, the Commonwealth was allowed to manage a guest worker program that permitted alien workers to renew their job contracts and live in the CNMI year after year but denied them any opportunity to adjust to permanent status.

"They established roots in the CNMI that grew deeper and stronger each year that their stay was extended, but their status as temporary guest workers remained the same," he said.

Evelyn Buen, 58, said she has been working as a cook on Saipan for 20 years, and hopes

that she will be able to obtain a more permanent immigration status. For two decades, she has been earning minimum wage in the CNMI.

"I would like to be able to stay here. This has become my home," she said in an interview yesterday.

In Syed's letter, he asked Obama to recognize that the unique and urgent needs of the CNMI's legal, documented aliens need not and should not be delayed by ongoing partisan politics and a raging debate over undocumented workers in the U.S.

chief, Steve L. Moore, earlier disclosed that they are mulling bringing in trained dogs for the search.

Simon said the search at the landfill has turned up nothing new and they are about one day done from scouring the dumpsite.

"We expect to the close of business tomorrow [Monday] to be done with that and we can move on to the next phase of the investigation," said Simon, who is the FBI Honolulu media relations coordinator.

He said the FBI and local authorities continue to cover leads.

"Hopefully one of these leads is [going to] provide a solution to this mystery," Simon said.

With respect to psychic issue, Simon said the FBI does not use psychics in their investigations because "there is no such thing as psychics."

"We also don't use unicorns in our investigations. Psychics are fraud, they are liars, they are thieves. Most of them step into this situation trying to take advantage of the family for money," he said.

The special agent warned the Luhk's family or anyone else to stay away from people claiming to be psychics because "they are thieves and liars."

SEARCH**From Page 1**

FBI special agent Tom Simon confirmed yesterday that a search dog from Hawaii is coming this week to Saipan to help locate the Luhk sisters.

On Saturday, the fourth day of search at the Marpi landfill failed yet again to yield any clues that could shed light on the disappearance of 10-year-old Faloma and 9-year-old Ma-leina.

Simon also cautioned the girls' family and everyone else against persons claiming to be psychics and offering help to find the sisters.

Overtime costs

Jerome Jerome, Criminal Justice Planning Agency executive director, told *Saipan Tribune* Friday that the islandwide search that began on May 26 has now resulted in 15,000 to 20,000 work hours and overtime for about 75 CNMI law enforcers and other personnel.

Jerome said the work hours spent for "Operation Hope" up until Wednesday or Thursday last week translate to over \$170,000.

Jerome earlier disclosed that

the CNMI government has created an expense account for the search.

"This is an expense account under the Governor's Office to try and assist in every urgency or emergency needed from the operation center to support law enforcement that are out there in the search," he said.

Faloma and Maleina were reportedly last seen near a bus stop pavilion in As Teo after 6am on May 25.

Landfill search

After Friday's search at the landfill, Marvin K. Seman, special assistant for the Office of Homeland Security, told CNMI personnel to return Saturday for the resumption of an eight-hour scouring of a garbage heap.

Seman said the governor approved fielding more CNMI personnel to assist the FBI team at the landfill.

On Friday, 20 local personnel joined 11 FBI agents at the landfill.

Search dog

FBI special agent Simon told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they will hold a news briefing when the search dog arrives from Hawaii.

The FBI's Guam resident

employees, Fong said: "It has been my plan for a while to stop the school operations for the grade school levels and now it is of much importance to confer this issue to those who will be affected by my decision. I have been asking you to do your part in reaching out for students so the school might survive in this economic downfall, but it seems that there will be no potential enrollees for this coming school year and I will not be able to meet your expectations to continue providing employment opportunities."

Saipan Tribune learned that SAEF needs about 40 enrollees so it could continue operations. However, only the kindergarten classes and first to second grades have been filled in the last two years. There has been zero enrollments for the upper grade classes.

He described the decision as tough but the only way to ensure that the school will remain open.

Fong also revealed that the school has no potential enrollees this school year, a concern that he said has already been brought up with teachers before.

In his memo to SAEF em-

ployees, Fong said: "It has been my plan for a while to stop the school operations for the grade school levels and now it is of much importance to confer this issue to those who will be affected by my decision. I have been asking you to do your part in reaching out for students so the school might survive in this economic downfall, but it seems that there will be no potential enrollees for this coming school year and I will not be able to meet your expectations to continue providing employment opportunities."

"You may start looking for a job that you think will give you more assurance," said Fong in his memorandum. However, he added that there is a possibility that he will require their services again should there be enough students for this new school year. Class opening is slated for August.

Fong, who is currently in the U.S. mainland, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the school's affiliates will stay open, including the Kids' Cove and the University of Loyola.

"They're not affected by the downsizing..." said Fong, adding that SAEF will start developing its own enrollees and students through its Kids' Cove Learning Center.

He said the transfer of many students to public schools and the much lower tuition offered by competing schools are also factors in their decision.

SAEF is located at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy 3rd birthday to Ryle Richard Quichocho! We love you! Greetings come from your family and REQ kids.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 5th birthday to Edward Keoni Ruak Santos, who celebrates his special day today, June 13! Greetings come from your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Ernesta Ann Santos Duenas! God bless you on your special day today, June 13, 2011! Greetings come from you family and friends. Also in photo is Frank Mizutani.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to momma's boy, John Luis Camacho, who is celebrating his 3rd birthday today! We love you! Greetings come from Mommy, Lee Boy, and Andrew.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Jess F. Mafnas, who is celebrating his special day today, June 13, 2011! Greetings come from your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SAEF**From Page 1**

owner, said yesterday that the company cannot sustain current operations due to the hard economic times. He estimated that operation of the elementary level alone has incurred over \$50,000 in deficit.

SAEF has been offering kindergarten to eighth grade classes in the last two years.

Last Friday, SAEF employees and teachers were issued memos announcing the management's decision.

Fong disclosed that starting this new semester, the school will let go of the upper grade levels and will retain only the kindergarten, first, and second grade classes.

He described the decision as tough but the only way to ensure that the school will remain open.

Fong also revealed that the school has no potential enrollees this school year, a concern that he said has already been brought up with teachers before.

In his memo to SAEF em-

Four-day arts festival a roaring success

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The celebration of artistic and cultural diversity dominated the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival celebration from June 9 to 12 at the American Memorial Park West of the Bell Tower.

A total of 56 arts and crafts as well as off-island delegation booths and eight food vendor booths were set up at the festival, with most of the arts and crafts booths doing demonstrations for spectators.

Performance highlights were the presentations from the New Zealand and Japan delegations, which attracted large crowds.

New Zealand performers staged traditional Maori dances Saturday afternoon and last night, while the 36-member Dream Hula group from Fussa City in Japan presented island dances Saturday night.

The Council dedicated this year's festival to former Rota staff Balbina DLC Taisacan, former arts coordinator on Saipan Martin M. Sablan, visual artist Rolando "Rolly" Del Rosario, Timian musician Vicente M. Muna, and Wellipal Cultural Dancers member Vicente S. Kaipat.

Taisacan, in an interview after accepting her dedication certificate, said she is not ready to quit her job even after 20 years of service. Taisacan, who does handicrafts, said she is still willing to demonstrate and give lessons sans the manual labor due to her limited mobility.

"I really care for the future generations because our arts, traditions and culture are very much vanishing," she told *Saipan Tribune*. "I want to see it grow stronger instead."

Arts Council executive director Angel S. Hocog said this year's celebration was a big success.

Artists highlighted

An array of artworks—from paintings and photographs to wood carvings and art trinkets—were among the signature attractions at the festival.

Mentine Esteves, who has been weaving for the last 10 years, said this is her third year to join the festival.

"The festival is part of my learning process in becoming a better artist," she said.

Tinian resident Cynthia Dela Cruz Takasi, who inherited her hot pepper business from her parents, said it is significant for her to join the festival. "It's almost like a tradition for me, knowing that my mom and dad

RELATED STORY

■ For related pictures, go to Pages 14 and 15

Department of Community & Cultural Affairs
Division of Historic Preservation



PUBLIC NOTICE

Historic Preservation Fund Grant Proposed Work Goals for FY 2011

The Division of Historic Preservation (HPO) under the auspices of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, anticipates the receipt of approximately \$409,791 from the U.S. National Park Service for Fiscal Year 2011. This funding is provided to support the Commonwealth's Historic Preservation program and related community activities.

Prior to the submission of the grant application, the Division of Historic Preservation Office would like to solicit the community's input or comments on what priorities, concerns, projects, and activities it would like to undertake relating to Historic Preservation.

We need your comments particularly on such aspects as:

1. What do you think we should be focusing more of this year?
2. What particular community projects do you believe is important that we should try to fund?
3. What topics should we focus when publishing our ethnographic or archaeological books?
4. What particular areas do you want our office to concentrate on surveying or in the identification of cultural materials?
5. What aspects of the program do you think we should strengthen?

The following are examples of work goals that are proposed for FY 2011. We would like to know what you think about them.

- Conducting a more intensive survey on Carolinas area on Tinian
- Reprinting all HPO's archaeological and ethnographic collection
- Implementing and maintaining its Geographic Information System
- Nominating significant sites to the National Register of Historic Places
- Provide a symposium on historic preservation policies and identification of cultural materials
- Educate the CNMI's children about historic preservation through school visits, lectures and field trip
- Partner with MARC on exploration of Northern Islands surveys

Interested individuals are invited to submit their comments to the HPO in writing no later than June 30, 2011. Written comments should be addressed to Melvin L. O. Faisao, CNMI State Historic Preservation Officer, Dept. of Community and Cultural Affairs, P.O. Box 500090 CK, Saipan, MP 96950. It may also be faxed to our office at 664-2139 or sent through e-mail to mlof65@gmail.com or mtkani@cnmihpo.net. Please visit our office located on Airport Road, between the former MVA Office and the LSG Building should you have any questions.

In addition to submitted written comments, our office would also like to undertake a formal public hearing to listen to your concerns and ideas about the historic preservation grant and possible projects or activities. The following is a schedule in this effect:

ISLAND	LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Rota	Round House	June 7, 2011	6 - 8 p.m.
Tinian	Mayor's Conference Room	June 14, 2011	6 - 8 p.m.
Saipan	Multipurpose	June 15, 2011	6 - 8 p.m.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. We look forward to hearing your comments and ideas. Your input and participation is extremely valuable.

/s/ Melvin L. O. Faisao
Secretary, Community & Cultural Affairs

used to participate in the festival as well," she said.

Although they had to pay for their own airfare and accommodations, the three-member Guam delegation

went ahead and took part in this year's festival.

"I know the economy is not that great but still, the festival is one way to perpetuate our arts and culture," said Greg Pange-

lin. The other two members are Frank Perez and Pat Claros.

Eighteen members of the Taotao Taga Dancers from Tinian also joined the four-day festival.

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MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, June 17, 2011 beginning at 9:00am at MPLT Conference Room, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

The following agenda is hereby established:

- I PRELIMINARIES
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll Call
 - 3. Adoption of Agenda
 - 4. Adoption of Minutes
- May 20, 2011
- II ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT
- III CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
 - 1. Investment Consultant Report
 - 2. Legal Counsel Report
 - 3. Board Consultant Report
- IV OLD BUSINESS
 - 1. Home Loans – BOH
 - 2. Investment Policy Statement
 - 3. Proposal – Investment
- V COMMUNICATIONS
- VI NEW BUSINESS
- VII MISCELLANEOUS
 - 1. IFEWP – International Investment and Emerging Market – July 2011
 - 2. Personnel Matter
- VIII ADJOURNMENT

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Alvaro A. Santos
Chairman, MPLT Trustees

Review of 3 offers on La Fiesta revitalization begins

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos said a team has been formed to review three proposals submitted in connection with a multimillion revitalization of the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque.

He said there are three proposals, not two as the administration earlier said.

"I hope these three proposals came in on time...Work is currently underway to review the proposals," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at the opening ceremony for the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival Saturday morning.

Acting Finance secretary Larissa Larson also said last week there were three entities who responded to the request for proposals to revitalize La Fiesta.

Inos said the three were Island Ventures, Pacific Amusement in partnership with a Nova Scotia, Canada-based firm, and the United Micronesia Development Association Inc., which owns the now-closed 313-room

The Palms Resort across the road from La Fiesta.

Island Ventures is also interested in building a multi-million hotel near La Fiesta. The Department of Public Lands issued a one-year temporary authorization to Island Ventures LLC to enter the premises it wants to lease to build its project in an area previously leased and later abandoned by Flame Sako for a planned \$80-million hotel.

Bridge Capital LLC, which earlier told the media that they will respond to the La Fiesta RFP, did not want to comment on the issue.

Inos said because he has not seen the proposals submitted, there's no telling whether Bridge Capital is partnering with any of the three proposers.

Inos said the review team will consist of the Finance secretary and representatives from the Office of the Attorney General, the

Department of Commerce, and the Division of Revenue and Taxation.

The review, he said, could take two weeks.

Initial estimates are that La Fiesta Mall renovations will cost at least \$5 million.

The CNMI has a leasehold interest in the La Fiesta Mall, which has been empty for several years and suffered serious deterioration due to vandalism and neglect.

The government has been paying some \$200,000 annually for the lease of the property, yet it has not earned a single cent from it since 2004. Rather than let the facility deteriorate further, the government wants to revitalize it, and this was the reason why the government sought proposals from interested parties.

The last time Finance issued an RFP in 2009, the negotiation

with the lone proposer, Bridge Capital, bogged down.

Finance issued another RFP, but this time specifically stating that besides retail stores and other tourism-related activities, the La Fiesta Mall revitalization project requires the construction of a gaming area for at least 200 video lottery terminals as stated in the project's scope of work.

"There are now three [proposers] because I think this RFP had allowed or had stated that it would consider proposals for the operation of video lottery terminals and that kind of attracted some of these proposers," Inos said.

The Department of Finance adopted regulations to allow the operation of video lottery terminals.

Finance had said that net gaming funds from the video lottery operations will be used solely for the payment of obligations to the NMI Retirement Fund.

Fitial panel firm on Covenant-GOP merger

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's so-called Blue Ribbon Committee led by former speaker Oscar Rasa is firm in pushing for the merger of the Republican Party and the Covenant Party, with 1,077 duly signed petitions so far gathered to join the GOP.

The Republican Party has yet to hold a general membership meeting, four months after the February schedule required by its bylaws.

Rasa said the petitioners also want to join or rejoin the GOP, just like what Fitial did in January. The committee met again on Thursday night at the Carolinian Ut in Garapan.

Fitial was one of the founders and longest leaders of the Republican Party in the CNMI but he left it to form the Covenant Party in 2001 for his gubernatorial bid. He won on his

second try.

Longtime Republicans said the governor has been planning to become president again of the Republican Party, and this is the reason why he has been encouraging Covenant Party members to also switch to the Republican Party.

Rasa, when asked for comment, said a sitting governor cannot be chairman or president of the party according to party bylaws but he automatically becomes a member of the Central Committee, which also has as members other elected officials mostly lawmakers.

This Central Committee determines the implementation of bylaws, and recommends necessary changes.

Some Republicans said Fitial could easily sway members of the committee to amend party

bylaws to allow a sitting governor to become chairman or president of the party.

One of those present at the meeting said he supports the push for the merger and to have a Republican CNMI governor, which the committee said will help the CNMI get more attention in the Republican-controlled U.S. Congress.

"The Republican National Committee would have wanted a Republican governor, and sooner or later, there won't be sufficient funding to operate this government and we need the U.S. Congress help. This is also to develop better relationship with the Congress," Rasa said.

Fitial can no longer seek re-election in 2014 under the law. The administration is mum whether Fitial would run as delegate. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2011 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2011-008 (A thru F)
"REHABILITATION OF THE SIX (6) FIRE STATIONS"



Proposal packets for each project (A thru F) will be available on June 6, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) is required for each set per project. Payment shall be by credit card, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Project
NMHC 2011-008 (A): Susupe Fire Station – One
NMHC 2011-008 (B): Garapan Fire Station – Two
NMHC 2011-008 (C): Rota Fire Station
NMHC 2011-008 (D): Koblerville Fire Station – Four
NMHC 2011-008 (E): Kagman Fire Station – Five
NMHC 2011-008 (F): San Roque Fire Station – Six

Packer Fee(s)
\$75.00/each set
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A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project sites, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project immediately following the Pre-Bid Conference. For the Rota Fire Station, site visit will be scheduled on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 – 1:00 p.m. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

2011 SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

"Promoting Health and Cultural Awareness in our Youth"

Sponsored by the Division of Youth Services

In collaboration with NMC Area Health Education Center (AHEC)

Health and Wellness Camp will start on:
July 11 to July 22, 2011

Arts and Crafts Camp will start on:
August 01 to August 12, 2011



The Health and Wellness Camp is a two-week program designed to keep our CNMI youth active, to improve their athletic skills, learn the value of sportsmanship, and encourage them to live healthy and active lifestyles.

The Arts and Crafts Camp is also a two-week program focused on promoting healthy relationships, teaching children survival skills, enhancing their leadership and team building skills, as well as learning traditional arts & crafts making.

Please register your child(ren), ages 6 to 12 years old, by completing and submitting a registration form at the Division of Youth Services or at NMC AHEC (Bldg. P).

Deadline for Application is June 30, 2011.



For more information call Abner Venus
from Division of Youth Services at
Tel.#: 664-2599 or call Orrin Pharmin from
NMC at Tel.#: 234-5498 Ext. 1020 / 1010



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: June 30, 2011 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2010-016 (A)
"CONSTRUCTION OF TINIAN MARPO HEIGHT BASKETBALL COURT"

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Monday, June 6, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Field Office in San Jose Village, Tinian, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by credit card, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2011, at NMHC's Tinian Field Office in San Jose, Tinian, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID ITB11-DPH-100 (A-C)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 08, 2011 * TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF SIX (6) DESKTOP COMPUTERS, ONE (1) LAPTOP COMPUTER AND ONE (1) PROJECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

SVES students, teachers honor retiring administrator

CNMI and Guam attorney reciprocity program pushed

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofsneider (R-Tinian) has pre-filed a bill that will allow lawyers in Guam to also practice in the CNMI under an attorney reciprocity program.

Once Senate Bill 17-64 becomes law, attorneys continuously residing for at least 10 years in Guam and who have been admitted to practice law there for at least 10 years could be permitted to try or participate in trials or proceedings in the CNMI.

However, this will be permitted only when Guam also grants permission to attorneys admitted to practice law in the CNMI to also act as attorneys for clients in Guam under similar terms.

Hofsneider said that providing for attorney reciprocity with Guam would remove the current obstacle to investors wishing to invest both in the CNMI and Guam, and clients in need of legal representation in both jurisdictions.

"While there are a number of lawyers already admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth and Guam, establishing an attorney reciprocity program would greatly enhance the public's access in the Commonwealth and Guam to a much larger pool of legal expertise, which will facilitate and result in greater savings and other social and economic benefits," he said.

Under the bill, the Supreme Court shall promulgate rules to implement the reciprocity programs. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students, teachers, and staff at San Vicente Elementary School gathered Friday in a special ceremony to honor principal Joaquina Salas, who will be retiring this month.

In what she thought was a rou-

tine field-day program, Salas was surprised by the school's student council with a "special tree"—a kind of ornamental plant called Pink Tacoma—that was planted in front of the school's center stage in her honor.

Salas, who has been with San Vicente in the last 30 years, started as a school teacher aide after

graduating from high school in 1981. She was a classroom teacher for more than 20 years before becoming the school's vice principal; she became the principal five years ago.

Salas wants to become part of her granddaughter's first years in school and will be moving to Arizona this summer. However,

she promised the students and teachers that she will return and pay them a visit once in a while.

"I've been an educator for 30 years...and my heart will always be with the students. Hopefully I can go back in the classroom because I want to continue serving children," she told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that she will try to work as a teacher in Arizona.

Salas said the San Vicente school used to accommodate over a 1,000 students each year. The government later built two schools—Kagman and Dandan elementary schools—to ease the overcrowding. From

over a 1,000 enrollees in the '90s, San Vicente is now home to 655 students.

"In my 30 years here, I've seen a lot of good changes. I've witnessed a lot of growth in terms of student achievement as well as our teachers' advancement in ensuring our students are really learning and becoming successful every year," she said.

For teacher Valrick Welch, Salas can be likened to a Neem tree, which is noted for its drought resistance and for giving protection to some other plants. "She will surely be missed here," he told *Saipan Tribune*.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Sixth grade students of San Vicente Elementary School show retiring school principal Joaquina Salas, right, the Pink Tacoma tree they dedicated to her on Friday.



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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the General Public that Ms. Arlene D. Hart is no longer connected with **Ecosure Insurance** effective immediately. Any transaction made by her on behalf of the company from the date of this Notice shall be rendered null and void.

The Management

NMI's Williams accepted to nat'l scholars society

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 19-year-old student from Saipan was accepted to the National Society of Collegiate Scholars for achieving academic excellence in his studies.

Heartim Williams, a freshman dentistry student at Creighton University, is the only son of Tim and Rumi Williams. He will officially join the Society in an induction convocation this fall semester on the campus of Creighton University.

Stephen E. Lofflin, the society chief executive officer and founder, announced Williams'

acceptance to the organization.

According to Heartim's father Tim, his son is a consistent honor student since his primary grades.

Saipan Tribune learned that Heartim Williams went to Seventh-Day Adventist School and Dandan Elementary School for his primary education. He completed his middle school at Hopwood Junior High where he graduated with the Principal's Award.

Last school year, Heartim graduated from Marianas High School where he was named among the Top 10 awardees.

Tim Heartim said this national recognition for his son only reflects all the hard work and sacrifices that Heartim has dem-



Williams

volved in numerous sports and community events, in and out of school.

Tim Heartim said this national recognition for his son only reflects all the hard work and sacrifices that Heartim has dem-

onstrated throughout the years. "We're very surprised with this recognition but we're also proud of our son. For all his hard work and dedication, he truly deserves this honor," he said.

Heartim Williams left the island last week to continue his studies at Creighton University, where he also serves as a student senator.

Membership to the society is by invitation-only, based on grade point average and class standing. The society has more than 750,000 lifetime members and 270 chapters in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

MHS' Dela Cruz accepted to national society of scholars

Deveney M. Dela Cruz, a junior student at Marianas High School, has been accepted to the prestigious National Society of High School Scholars for her academic achievements and excellence.

Deveney, 17, is the daughter of Rep. Francisco Dela Cruz and Lisa Dela Cruz. She is a consistent honor student since her primary grades and an active member of academic organizations in her school. She is the president of the MHS junior



Dela Cruz

class this school year.

Claes Nobel, chairman and founder of the National Society

of High School Scholars and senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes, announced Dela Cruz selection to the organization.

"I am honored to recognize the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that Deveney has demonstrated to achieve this level of academic excellence. She is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our very best hope for the future," said Nobel in a letter to

the student.

Dela Cruz said her acceptance is an honor. "It's a very prestigious society and I am really happy that I'm in it right now. This shows all the work that I have done throughout the years and a reflection of my hard work," she said.

Dela Cruz will be leaving for a month beginning June 19th to Stanford University in San Francisco on a full scholarship under the Junior State of America program, or JSA. (Moneth Deposa)

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
INVITATION FOR BID
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2011 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2011-009
"PURCHASING OF FIRE PROTECTION & LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENTS FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FIRE DIVISION SAIPAN"

Proposal packets will be available on June 6, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by credit card, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 1:00 p.m. on June 14, 2011, at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
INVITATION FOR BID
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: June 30, 2011 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2010-016 (B)
"CONSTRUCTION OF TINIAN CAROLINA HEIGHT BASKETBALL COURT"

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Monday, June 6, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Field Office in San Jose Village, Tinian, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday through Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by credit card, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2011, at NMHC's Tinian Field Office in San Jose, Tinian, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Board of Parole
P.O. Box 502641 Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel. Nos.: (670) 664-3300 - 3302 • Fax: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Parole Hearing

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and LT. Governor Eloy Inos, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for June 22, 2011, (Wednesday) beginning at 1:00 p.m., and if need be, continue on June 23, 2011 (Thursday) at 8:30 a.m. at the Vicente Taman Seman Building, Department of Corrections, Briefing/Training Room, Susupe, Saipan, MP.

The following items are included in the agenda:

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Presence of Quorum

II. Consent Items
1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Adoption of Parole Hearing Minutes – February 17, 2011

III. Parole Application BOP No. Criminal Case No.
1. Oscar Reyes Babauta 11-003 97-0031
2. Elaine Quitugua Terlaje 09-017 07-0107C
3. James Michael Fitzgerald 11-005 08-0054E

IV. Revocation BOP No. Criminal Case No.
1. Ignacio M. Leon Guerrero 09-RA-002 07-0100B

V. Miscellaneous
1. Other Matters

VI. Adjournment

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Rose Ada-Hocog
Acting Chairwoman, Board of Parole

Date: 06/09/2011

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Board of Parole
P.O. Box 502641 Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel. Nos.: (670) 664-3300 - 3302 • Fax: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

PUBLIC NOTICE
Board Executive Meeting

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and LT. Governor Eloy Inos, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a Board Executive Meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2011, (Wednesday) beginning at 8:30 a.m., at the Vicente Taman Seman Building, Department of Corrections, Briefing/Training Room, Susupe, Saipan, MP.

The following items are included in the agenda:

I. Preliminary Matters
A) Roll Call
B) Welcome
C) Presence of Quorum

II. Consent Items
A) Review/Adoption of Agenda
B) Adoption of Executive Meeting Minutes – May 26, 2010

III. New Business
A) Election of Officers
B) FY 2011 Budget Status
a) Current Fund Status
b) Current Allotment
c) Expense Report
C) FY 2012 Projected Budget
a) Calendar of Meetings & Hearings
b) FY 2012 Projected Expense

D. Office Operations
a) EE Issues
i. Trainings & Certifications
ii. Staff Shortage
b) Fleet and Maintenance
c) VAWA Program Status

E. Parolee Status
a) Case Status
b) Review Hearings
i. Supervision Fees v. Community Work

F. Board Vacancies
a) New Representative
i. Steve K. Mesngon – Nominee

G. Parolee Victor Flores
a) Status Report

IV. Old Business
A) Dwayne Sibetang

V. Adjournment

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Rose Ada-Hocog
Acting Chairwoman, Board of Parole

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 13, 2000

PSS awards contract for additional classrooms

Construction work on seven additional classrooms for Dandan and Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary Schools are scheduled to start soon after the Public School System last Friday awarded the contract to Guam Pacific Power Corporation. Four new classrooms at DES and three at GTC are being targeted to reduce overcrowding at the said campuses, according to a PSS Capital Improvement Projects status report. The CIP Committee headed by Board of Education Anthony Pellegrino has 46 ongoing major CIP projects worth approximately \$44.5 million. Some 25 maintenance projects (less than \$10,000) are also under construction. The project value for these upgrades is being pegged at \$91,000.

PSS to draw up a local version of SAT9

The Public School System has disclosed plans to create a CNMI-wide annual assessment patterned after the nationwide Stanford Achievement Test-9th Edition aimed at putting tabs on the average norm of students based on local standards. Education Commissioner Rita H. Inos yesterday said one of PSS' main thrusts this academic year is to look at the local validity and reliability of standards by setting benchmarks across all grade levels. SAT9, a nationally normed evaluation for students, does not really speak of the "real picture" in terms of standards in areas outside the U.S. mainland, according to the commissioner.

June 13, 2001

NMI businesses support Motheread Program

Standing pat on its belief that all children have a right to read, the Bank of Hawaii recently extended help to the Northern Marianas Council for the Humanities to support the Council's Motheread Literacy Program. Motheread, a nationally-acclaimed reading program based in North Carolina, focuses on helping parents to become reading role models for their children. Parents meet regularly, two or three times a month, with volunteers who are trained in the Motheread curriculum. The small classes read and discuss a selected list of children's books. Themes such as sibling rivalry, honesty, courage, the right to be different and host of issues related to family and social values are explored through stories that teach real life lessons.

Closure of Garapan brothels nears

The government is seeking the release of closure order for several business establishments in Western Garapan found operating as prostitution dens, according to Tourist-Related Crime Prevention Task Force Chair Herbert Soll. The move is part of a wider government plan to stop proliferation of sex trade in the Northern Marianas, especially the tourist and commercial district of Garapan. In an interview yesterday, Soll said government lawyers have started documentation of the violations committed by some business establishments in Western Garapan in relation to the Commonwealth's anti-prostitution law.

June 13, 2002

New law boosts protection for fish and game

To equip the Division of Fish and Wildlife with needed funds for its various programs, the Commonwealth government has revived the Fish and Game Conservation Fund, to which all revenues collected by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources from licenses or permits issued and penalties or fines assessed would go. This came about after Gov. Juan N. Babauta signed into law House Bill 13-9 on Tuesday, re-establishing the revolving fund within the DLNR, to be used solely for the administration of programs under the fish and wildlife division. The new law, which 13 House of Representatives lawmakers introduced on February 5, is to be called hence as Public Law 13-8.

Disallowed costs in sewer project reach \$78K

An Office of the Public Auditor review of the Saipan Beach Road sewer system project has determined disallowed costs amounting to \$78,779.93, which the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has to reimburse to the federal government. In a report it released yesterday, the OPA said that, of the \$253,728 in total payments that the project's contractor received, \$78,779.93 are disallowed costs that represent missing equipment, reimbursements for purchases and other expenditures not specifically authorized in the contract, and additional work on the project that were never approved. The project's A&E contractor was the Juan C. Tenorio & Associates (JCTA) and the project was funded by the Office of the Insular Affairs, which had requested the OPA review.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-040
DEBT COLLECTION LEGAL SERVICES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from debt collection attorneys to assist in the collection of delinquent utility billings for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The CUC intends to place selected accounts with one or more attorney. Submitted proposals must indicate how the CUC will be kept informed of the progress of each account placed with the attorney, as well as provide a summary and detail report of all accounts placed. In addition, proposals must provide for the total listing of the gross amount of all collections with a separate billing for attorney services rendered.

The RFP Package and the Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 16, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-040, Debt Collection Legal Services" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than July 08, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 20, 2011 to Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net; Mr. Manuel Sablan Purchasing Officer msablan@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

SIZE MATTERS
Midi "Measure" your catch so we can fish tomorrow

Find the right size catch on the new ruler and poster

Are the sizes listed in the poster and ruler a new law?

No, this is not a new law or regulation. The sizes listed are recommendations based on the average size at which our fish begin to produce eggs, this size is called L50.

How does choosing fish that are the 'right size' help the reef?

Harvesting, buying or eating fish below the listed L50 sizes reduces the number of spawning fish in the reef, resulting in less fish for tomorrow. These recommended sizes are not applicable to early juvenile runs (like manahak and l'e).

Where do the size recommendations come from?

The L50 sizes are based on the best available life-history data with input from local and regional agencies and scientific journals.

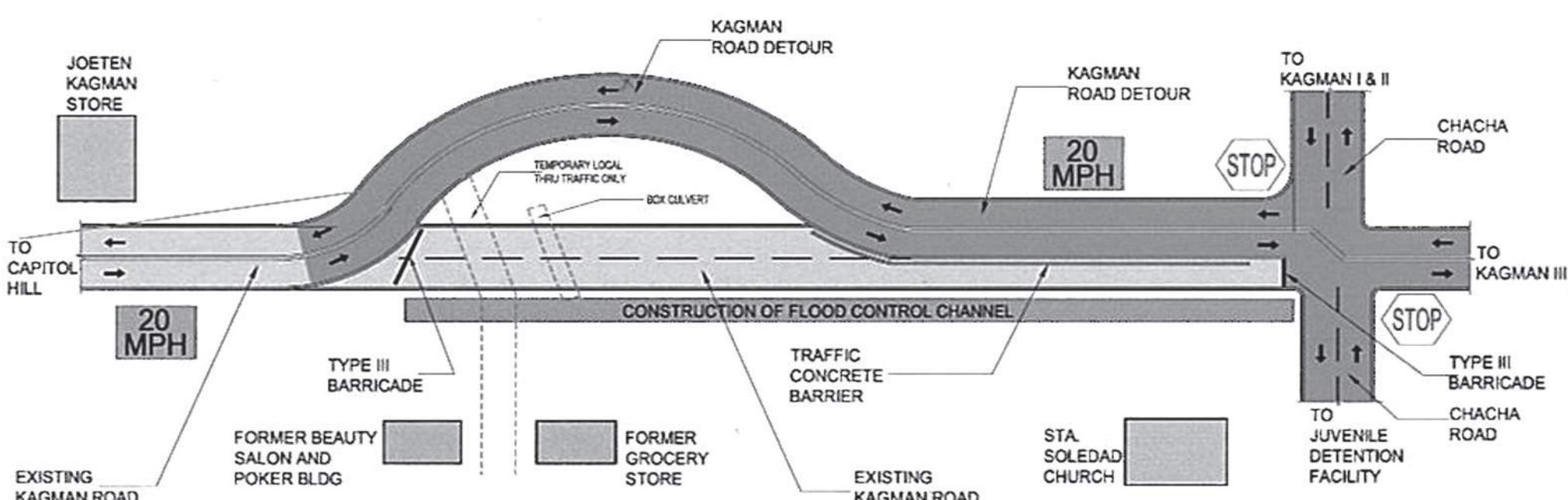
Check fishing events and conservation offices for rulers and posters!
More at: sizematterscnmi.blogspot.com

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Effective June 23, 2011, Kagman Road traffic will be detoured as depicted below to allow for the safe construction of an underground Flood Control Channel and a large Box Culvert as part of the Kagman Watershed Project. This paved detour is expected to remain in place throughout the construction at a reduced speed of 20 MPH.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

RNV CONSTRUCTION



Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

Phantom at the Sanctum Sancturum

In the post-Vatican II ecumenical era, Christians and Jews sip cider together at Seder meals. A Christian considered still in the Dark Ages is one unfamiliar with an unleavened matzo on Pesakh (Passover).

The Vatican II Ecumenical Council was, in a sense, a fluke. Cardinali Angelo Giuseppe Roncalii, a rotund and jovial Venetian cardinal, bought a roundtrip ticket to Rome for the papal election after the death of Pope Pius XII, which he did not get to use. *Giovanni XXIII* was a temporary papal choice given his age until the favored Archbishop Montini (who followed as Paul VI) can be officially elevated to the Vatican See.

John pulled a couple of fast ones. First, he convened an ecumenical council, opened the doors and windows of the venerable but ancient institution for fresh air (after the triumphalism of Pius XII), fortunately and unfortunately catching our curiosity in the springtime of our juventud. Second, he chose John for a name, a no-no since the antipope of the 1400s' schism, deftly satisfying the conservatives who would not give Antipope John the time of day. Giovanni naming himself John XXIII seemed to deny his earlier namesake's official recognition. Not so, the liberals countered. There was no John XX, and, therefore, *Giovanni Viginti Tres* just faithfully continued the count, including John XXIII of 1415 CE.

No matter. This tracing of Roman Catholic lineage is actually more for my anemic Methodist historical sense that is twice removed from its Roman See roots (after the English-Anglicans and the American-Episcopalians). Methodists bridge the span between the episcopacy of the Protestant Reformation and the laity of the Congregational reforms in Europe, transported to the New World, a sentiment suited to the recalcitrant Tories and uncertain democrats in the American Revolution. Thus, from the American Midwest, where mighty Methodists are from, would come missionaries of American exceptionalism and "manifest destiny," an endeavor Methodists have been known to excel.

Our title plays on Broadway's *Phantom of the Opera* where Victor Hugo's character Quasimodo, the hunchback of Notre Dame, is lead role. Long after we abandoned the pretentious Methodist slogan of "open heart, open minds, open doors," (it isn't) comes a reality clip from the Jon Stewart comedy program of a Methodist Church allowing the Muslim faithful to use its facilities for worship and prayers.

In the tradition of balanced reporting, the program also presented the opinion of an evangelical preacher who vowed undying love for Muslims in the manner of the Christ but "sharing sanctuary was tantamount to allowing the devil to preach from the pulpit." It would be chicken doo-doo (reporter's term not printable) for the Evangelicals if there was a mosque hosting Christian prayers. Sure enough, there is, in New Jersey. Double "Holy Dung," my irreverent Hindu Bro intones over this delightful fluke.

Two events occasion this reflection. One is a trip to Situ in Shenyang where the members of the Korean community are rabid proselytizers in the realm and beyond. Our trip to Jilin's Yanbian (Korea in China) last year surprised us with a First Baptist Church on Main St. in U.S. Dixie lookalike downtown Yangi. Evangelical

See PHANTOM on Page 13



The art of finding and getting a job

Good morning! Today let's discuss how to go about seeking a job and doing a good interview. As our nonresident workers begin to exit, we must prepare ourselves to take over. So I wish to share some basic tips on how to snag that job.

Consider the word JOB. It should stand for **Joy Of Being**. It should be an activity in which we enjoy our creativity. However, for too many of us, it represents a hell or a purgatory, and we cannot wait to get away from it. How sad to waste the most precious hours and days in such a condition! But you know, it doesn't have to be so. We can change it.

There are several reasons why we look for a job. We want to earn money to pay for our living expenses and to buy the things we want. In a job we meet and mingle with other people. We make new friends and enjoy other people's company. Also when we do a good job we create a sense of self-worth and feel pride. But if we are going to get a good job we must plan for it.

Are we going for a job that requires skills? Many jobs require formal education or special training. Or are we applying for a job that does not require any special skill? Whatever job we seek we must be serious enough to try to keep it and grow in it. If not, step back and think about what we really want to do.

Why is a job application important to an employer? The application forms are designed to help an employer spot an applicant's experience or lack of it and other flaws. It is designed to also eliminate all but the most qualified applicants. It's called "screening out applicants."

If you have an opportunity, visit the company and learn what it does and other things about it before going on an interview. Here are some rules to follow in ensuring a good impression application:

1. BE NEAT AND COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE. Neatness makes a positive impression while a messy application makes a negative one. It shows that we pay attention to details, are careful with our work, follow directions and are willing to make an extra effort. Read and follow all instructions carefully, fill each section completely and do not leave blank spaces.

2. BE POSITIVE. Positive attitude serves us well in every aspect of our job search. Make sure we include positive things that we have done or can do. If negative things seem unavoidable, include the positive things that we have acquired. Make sure we show or explain our skills to employers to make them want to meet us.

3. BE CREATIVE. Look at each space on our application form as an opportunity to present our skills and abilities. Avoid wasting words. Make each word count.

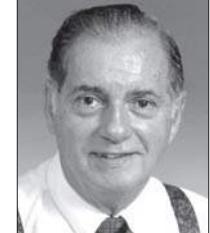
Some of the items we should consider as we fill out our application form is to specify the position we desire. State our salary expectation. Indicate future goals. Put in our education background. However, minimize health problems, school problems, marital problems, legal problems, and any financial problems. Be positive! Never say: "I will do anything." That is a big NO, NO!

Most employers desire employees that possess the following basic skills:

1. Knowing how to learn: This is known as the concept of life-long learning. Employers spend a lot of money in training on the job. Take advantage of this opportunity by a willing attitude for learning while on the job.

2. Reading, writing and computation skills: If we are weak in

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

these skills we will have trouble learning and will not function well in most jobs. Employers are constantly increasing their demands on employees to improve their education.

3. Listening and oral communication skills. According to a recent poll: The average person spends 8.4 percent of his time in writing communications, 13.3 percent reading, and 23.3 percent of his time speaking, but he spends 55 percent listening. Employers will promote employees who improve these skills.

4. Adaptability: Be flexible and adapt to situations. Keep pace with advances made because of modern technology.

5. Personal management: You must develop and maintain a high standard of self-esteem, goal setting, motivation, personal and career development. It is important and necessary so that we take pride in what we do and our work.

6. Goal setting: This helps motivate us to achieve the employer's objectives.

7. Group effectiveness: This is the ability to understand and practice teamwork, negotiation and interpersonal skills. Knowing how to work effectively in groups is the foundation of successful and modern organizations or enterprises.

If you are currently employed take a minute to do a "workplace basic skills" self-analysis. You will be surprised what you may already have and also see how to improve yourself. Getting and holding a job requires a lot of self-discipline.

If we wish to get a promotion and earn a higher wage, we must prove ourselves to the employer. He is always looking for better and higher performance and will pay for it. Think about it. Why do some of our friends get ahead and we don't?

Here are some "killer interview questions." These pose the most trouble for the majority of job seekers. I strongly advise that we develop answers to these questions and practice them until we feel comfortable:

1. Can you tell me a little bit about yourself?
2. Why should I hire you?
3. What are your strengths?
4. What do you consider to be your major weakness?
5. Why do you have interest on this field?
6. Why did you select this company?
7. What are your future plans?
8. How much do you expect to be paid?
9. Why did you leave your last job?
10. How much related experience do you have?
11. What will your reference say about you?
12. What do you like the best/least about your last job or schooling?

See ART on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Marriage go round

Although people come to us with a great variety of immigration related issues, the most common request for our help is a green card based on marriage to a U.S. citizen. Of course, not all of these are first marriages. So, today we want to discuss problems that arise with respect to former marriages when aliens seek to adjust status based on marriage to a U.S. citizen.

The basic rule is that both parties must be free to marry at the time of the marriage in order for the marriage to be valid. It does not matter if the Saipan Mayor's Office, or any other CNMI government office issued a marriage certificate. USCIS will scrutinize each and every former marriage by either party, and make its own determination whether the parties were free to marry. Unless each former marriage was terminated by annulment, divorce, or death, USCIS will not deem the marriage valid. There is an exception for some applications based on the Violence Against Women Act, where the abuser has concealed from the victim a former, undissolved marriage. There may be an exception for former marriages by the same parties. Regardless, whether an exception is available, the application cannot go forward until prior marriage issues are resolved.

U.S. citizen spouse with prior marriage(s)

If the U.S. citizen spouse has been married before, you will need to present a certified copy of a final divorce decree or death certificate. If the U.S. citizen spouse has been married more than once, you will need to obtain termination documents for each prior marriage: divorce, annulment or death, as the case may be. An interlocutory decree (intermediate) of divorce will not suffice. Even if the decree is final there may be other issues. For example, in the CNMI, a divorce decree is not deemed "final" until 30 days after the date on the decree. This is to make sure that the 30-day appeal period has passed and that no appeal has been filed. Other states may have different appeal periods, although 30 days is the most common. Remember there is no federal marriage or divorce law; these matters are a matter of state law and may differ widely.

If the former spouse died, you will need to present a certified copy of the official death certificate; and if the marriage was annulled, a certified copy of a decree of annulment. Due to the fact

Didog na mattiempu

Chata'an i haane. Homhum enteru i tanu. I manog manatog gi papa' sin, kontodu paluma man-nahguñg gi entalu chomchum ramas siha. Ha balutanyu un' sumen triste na siñiente lau ti siña hu apunta hafa umestotabayu guihe na oga'an. Esta hu suspecha kau guaha gi famaguonhu gai chinatsaga na malahyu-yu' fan mataghu.

Era, sinparat kumilulog gi hinasoghu i pinadesen tautauta siha guine gi didog na tiempun hai'las. Katkuet birada puru pot mahuchum bisnis, guagan utilidat; rinompen presiun gaselina; kumahulu' presiun nesessidat siha ni liniñu ensegidat ni ma'utot sueldo; hiniyoñg man-dañkulu siha na kometsiante; taya' chochu' yan otru siha man-didog na chinatsaga

Dididi'ha' talu man-hanau halom hit gi hotnum lusenfetnos. Hafa para tachogue siakassu na mas megai gi tautauta man-tai chechu? Fangularuan? Hagas ta diñgu este na tradision. Mas makat man-aligau prebension familia gi modetnu na Marianas. Hafa planon man-ma'gasta? Ti nanahuñg salape gi kaha lau fan malag Palau membron lehislatura na semana.

Kau ti makomprende maditenin pagamienton empleau siha ni kulan bisiu ma-anunusia kada dos semana? Kau magahet na man-innosiente ni kohun fondun scholarship, apas fondun man-ritirau, utilidat, yan otru siha obligasion ya para mafatañgaye este siha na pinadesi?

Hulie' este na pinadese poku mas o'menus dies años antes 'nai ta tala' kueruta gi plasan tiempun abundansia. Punta pot punta a'asu i tanu' sa' duru hit man-manunu katne yan guihan. Kada dia feria gi katkuet lancheria yan kanton tasi. Kontodu guahu bumuluntaryu manunu para un' tiuhu ni paire na kostiyas babue yan guaka. Mientras hu bibira i tininu, hu ñigñge' ya unnae' i amku' gimenña ni mas manenñgeñ na buteyan setbessa. Tuñgu lokue' muna' matan namase' hau puede niniae' hau kiblemu antes de un' hanau.

Pagu, hagas manana si Yuus lau makat ta baba matata sa' ta tuñgu' na hokog esta mames. Todu fina' sagan mamoluyan ta rikononose kau guaha dididi' sinsiyo. Taya' ni un' sientimos fuera ke potbus yan tararañas desde sien años antes. Mafattu oran halan talañga sa' ti man-na'sahñge hit para nesessidat 'an mattu talu un' chata'an na haane. Guiya este i estorian apacha yan odut. De dios mihi!

■ ■ ■

Este i mahuchom bisnis sumen nachatsaga sa' maribaha mas chochu' gi praibet 'nai lamegai gi tautauta sumoda' offisiun niha. Ti ayudu para i gobietnu i mahuchom bisnis. 1.) Mas maribaha rinikoo

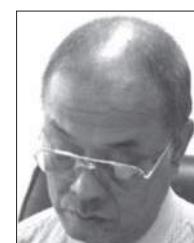
that a divorce is relatively easy to obtain in the United States, annulments from U.S. jurisdictions are relatively rare. Annulments are more common from countries that have no divorce, such as the Philippines, or where a divorce is difficult to obtain.

Most U.S. jurisdictions now have computerized court and vital statistics records for birth, marriage, and divorce. So if the marriage was terminated by either death or divorce within the last 30 years, court certified documents are relatively easy to obtain. The same is true of many countries; for example, we can now obtain certified marriage, divorce, and birth records from the Philippines' National Statistics Office online, for a modest fee. For U.S. records, you need to find out the state and the county where the death or divorce took place, and contact the appropriate clerk of court or county clerk. This information is easily available online. If the document you seek dates back prior to 1980, you may need to contact the proper court and see if they have records for the date you need. Most jurisdictions have microfilm or microfiche copies of old records. If they do, they will send you a copy on request. You will have to pay a fee for the certified copy, plus postage. The older the record, the more difficult it is to obtain.

Alien spouse with prior marriage(s)

The basic rule for alien spouses is the same as for U.S. citizen spouses: you must present termination documents for each prior marriage. If the document is in a foreign language, you must have a certified translation. Fortunately, most documents from the Philippines are in English, so no translation is necessary. Documents from China are in Chinese, but Chinese government agencies that issue vital documents have official translators attached to their offices. Therefore, documents from China come in a bound booklet form that already includes an official translation. This occasionally poses its own problems. (We had a client whose official divorce decree read that the child of the marriage would be "fostered" by the father. This led the USCIS adjudicator to question whether the mother had custody of the child because she interpreted the word "foster" to possibly mean "custody." We had the document re-translated by our own Chinese translator and it turned out that the Chinese word which had been translated as "foster" meant "support,"

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John S. DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

hen kontribusion tax ginen i bismis yan sueddon hutnaleros, 2.) Makumenta i numeron man-tai chechu sa' machum i bismis. Makat na kinalamten lau mas makat i para un' sañgane i prohimum na esta ti siña un' empleague' pot baban kinalamten.

■ ■ ■

Tana' fan ma-eduka famaguonta preparasion futuron niha. Hafa sustansiañga este na pinetsiga? Obligasiona na ta preparaye fina' chochu' para 'an ha bira siha mage. Estague' un' asuntu na kulan ti sessu ta tuka kumu obligasion. Lau huñgan obligasiona este 'sino tai bali todu animuta pot edukasion famaguonta.

■ ■ ■

Otru asuntu pot pottanmonedan programan man-ritirau. Ti u fattu dies años siempre kohu i fondu. 'Nai hokog mames, debi u guaha disision taimanu masatba este na programa favorable para i man-ritirau. Obligau sa' megai umañgoghu este na modun pagamientu para mantension familia.

■ ■ ■

Sigun as Guelun Fadañg humalom sagun mañahag yan tiau giya Luta gi mapos na semana. Puede i Saina ha bendise Tinian yan Saipan nu este na regalu. Maase' si Yuus sa' guaha mas talu fina' suette para lamasan familia siha. Gi hilu esperansa yan antau na bendision ginen todus u guaha mas alibiu gi ha'anita. Sen mas si Yuus maase'!

■ ■ ■

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and
BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

not "custody." The matter was resolved in our client's favor.)

Many foreign workers, often from the Philippines, have lived in the CNMI for a very long time, often 20 years or more. Traditionally, they marry young and have children young. When these workers came to the CNMI, they were mostly in their 20's. Although they usually supported spouses and children left behind, they often formed new relationships and marriages with other foreigners and with U.S. citizens, and had more children here. This worked, more or less, until federalization of immigration. Now we see many of these couples in our offices seeking a green card for the foreign spouse and, although they would otherwise be qualified, there this little matter of a prior marriage back in the home country. We always ask why they got married if they knew that they were still married and we get the most astonishing variety of answers: "I forgot," (not just the wife but the three children), "I thought it was annulled," "I thought it was a secret marriage," "I thought it was never registered," and our favorite, "I think I was drugged at the time, I don't remember."

Some people have several former marriages and may have had one annulled but not all. In a recent case we had a client who had been married twice previously, once in her home country, to the father of her children and later to a U.S. citizen on Saipan. Her third marriage was to a U.S. citizen. She had gotten a divorce from the FAS citizen but it turned out she was still married to her first husband. That meant that (1) she needed to get her first marriage terminated and (2) her second marriage was never valid because it was

See MARRIAGE on Next Page

ART

From Page 10

What does an employer expect from us as job seekers?

A. Do we present ourselves well during the interview? How we look and how we act tells an interviewer about our self-respect. Dress and groom well but not lavishly as though we were going to a party. The best rule to follow is to dress as you think your supervisor would dress. Practice a firm handshake. And look the employer in the eye with confidence.

B. Have good posture and personal habits. Posture is another way to give a positive clue about ourselves. If we sit in an interview, sit up straight or lean forward a little. Don't slouch in the chair or put your legs up. Look interested.

C. Try to keep our hands still. Don't gesture a lot, or use nervous habits. Smile when we get the chance. Don't chew gum or betel nut. Don't smoke even if the employer says it is okay to do so.

The above suggestions are useful to anyone whether presently employed or looking for a job. Trust me, jobs are available but we must sell ourselves when we apply for one. Competition is extremely keen, and we will lose if we don't prepare ourselves.

The above suggestions if applied will also get us promotions and an increase in wages. Look for opportunities in your present workplace. Volunteer to go beyond what is required of you. It is rare that an employer doesn't recognize positive actions.

As an employer for over 48 years, I have seen many of my employees advance because they practiced positive attitudes. And sadly, I have also had to let go employees who stagnated in their jobs and stopped progressing. Remember change is constant and unless we change with it, we slip and become replaceable. Consider the above suggestions in your present job and measure your performance against them.

Successful job interviews are studied and when preformed well will get you the job of your choice. Have a great day!

Letter to the Editor

Furthering our education is a choice, a privilege, and therefore our responsibility

As a previous undergraduate and currently a graduate student, SHEFA and CNMI Scholarship have helped tremendously in funding my education. With the recent cuts in awards, I had to refocus my financial means to consider these changes, and not once did I verbally nor in writing complain or attack SHEFA regarding their decision to reduce funding. Not once did I "cry" or "whine" over my rent, gas, tuition, or whatsoever because it was *my* choice, *my* decision, and *mine* alone to pursue a higher education. I strongly believe and we all should be grateful for any assistance these two scholarship agencies are able to provide us as students. They are neither responsible nor obligated in concept to support us in furthering our education. I currently live in the State of Washington, pay rent, bills, student loans, etc, so yes, I do have the prior experience of expenses in the mainland, and with that, yes, I still believe it is my full responsibility to pay for my education.

I don't understand why students and especially parents are getting personally outraged by the cuts in scholarships. As a college student, we should know how to "research" other options for financial assistance. Researching is the one main tool we use constantly as students; so come on, make use of that tool and look into other options to help financially pursue and complete your education. A college education is an investment, it's a challenge, and to some degree, a risk. There are many scholarships available for those who reside in the mainland as well as those on the island; you've just got to do the work to find them. We succeed by working hard and pushing forward, not by sitting around and waiting for that check to be disbursed.

I am certain that I will have many unsupportive fans of this letter. However, as you find yourself disagreeing with what I say, ask yourself whose decision was it to go to college and who should be

held responsible for that decision? As adults, we are liable and held responsible for the decisions we make. Similarly, we pay for the power we use, the food we consume, and so on as obligated for ourselves, so why would we expect differently for the education we

Emergency action needed

The economy is in a state of emergency. All indicators are at all time low. Things have never been worse in the CNMI. Not only do we need a solution for our economic problems, but also we cannot afford any solution that requires a lot of time and money. Factories, educational tourism, and financial services are all good ideas, but with 20-year time horizon and required investments of billions of dollars. None of that will help us now. They're great ideas, but that's like telling someone who's having a heart attack to eat fewer steaks—a long-term solution for an emergency situation. We need an emergency solution. A casino can bring money and businesses quickly to the CNMI. Everyone knows that Asian tourists love to gamble. Do Macau and Singapore have casinos? Of course. But in order for our casino to be successful, we don't need to beat Macau and Singapore. All we need is a small fraction of the tourists they get. No one here thinks that Saipan will become a bigger gambling destination than Macau. But if we just get 1 percent of Macau's gambling revenue, just 1 percent of our economic problems will be solved. Macau makes \$36 billion per year from gambling. One percent of that would be \$360 million per year. Just 1 percent of the business Macau is doing is all we need.

What about the worries of gambling addiction, drugs, and property crime? Look around us. Look in the newspaper any day. Isn't

choose to pursue as an option?

Please understand that I write this letter as a reminder to all students and parents that the decisions and choices we make as adults and students are ours and ours alone and we should not point fingers at others when we fail to achieve and complete and face a challenge we're unsure we have the capacity to overcome. This letter is not intended to attack or offend the opposite view. We are all entitled to our personal opinions, and this is mine!

Tracey Manglona

Dandan, Saipan resident

Currently in Washington State

Saipan already full of gambling addiction, drugs, and property crime? Caused not only by poker parlors in villages, but also by unemployment, poverty, and economic hopelessness. The casino proposal takes poker parlors out of the villages and gives our people economic hope, government revenue, and private-sector jobs.

What about our image? And the people who say they don't want Saipan to be associated with gambling? Do you prefer that Saipan is associated with bankruptcy, people not having enough to eat, families having to choose between paying CUC and buying medicine? We're in a real emergency. We need drastic action, such as a casino. I respect religion, but is it really Christian to let our children go hungry and to let so many of our people be forced into crime? Would you rather have hunger, theft, even violence, because of the lack of jobs and lack of hope, just to avoid the sin of gambling? Choices are never easy. I know some people consider gambling immoral. But what is going on right now with our economy? Isn't that more immoral? Let's take action. Let's bring something new and hopeful to Saipan. Join with us to do something, and in this emergency situation, that something is the casino.

Diego Blanco

As Lito, Saipan

MARRIAGE

From Page 11

bigamous, so her then attorney advised that the divorce didn't count and she had to have the second marriage annulled before she could marry again. We do not necessarily agree that this was the correct procedure, but this is what her former attorney advised her to do.

Options to untangle marital webs

1. Divorce: The first thing to understand is that you can get a divorce in the CNMI even if your home country doesn't allow it. The only requirement is that one of the parties has resided in the CNMI for 90 days. (For many years, the residency requirement was two years; this was changed by P.L. 17-20, which also removed the requirement that divorce had to be "for cause" and allows divorce on the basis of "irreconcilable differences.") So, if you have a secret marriage lurking in the background, you will need to file for divorce in the Commonwealth Superior Court. There are several ways of serving the absent spouse, depending whether or not you know his or her address. Not knowing your spouse's current address does not disqualify you from getting a divorce, but you will have to serve the summons and divorce complaint by publication. You will need to pay a \$150 filing fee to the Court; adjudication, if the divorce is uncontested (the usual case), will depend on the Court's calendar; the typical time is two to three months. Please note that some countries may not recognize a divorce that took place in a different country. For example, if a citizen of the Philippines gets divorced in the CNMI, that person is free to remarry in the CNMI and in the United States but may not be free to remarry in the Philippines. The Philippines will usually recognize the divorce and remarriage regardless, although we often have to convince nervous clients that no one is going to clap them in chains when they arrive at the airport in Manila.

2. Annulment: "An annulment differs conceptually from a divorce in that a divorce terminates a legal status, whereas an annulment establishes that a marital status never existed." Black's Law Dictionary. The Roman Catholic Church prohibits divorce: "What God has joined together, let no man put asunder." Unfortunately, being of the Roman Catholic faith does not guarantee a successful marriage. Therefore, beginning in the Middle Ages, annulment has become a legal instrument to terminate marriages in Catholic countries. The legal fiction is that, for whatever reason, the marriage was never valid, even if consummated. This is not difficult to understand if the marriage involved force, lack of consent, incapacity or an underage bride or bridegroom. It is much more difficult to comprehend when the parties cohabited for decades and there are children of the marriage. Nevertheless, people in all ages have wanted to get out of unhappy marriages, and Catholic countries adopted the annulment format to comply with the Church's prohibition on divorce.

We understand that there is no divorce available under the civil laws of the Philippines, to cite the most frequent example we see. A marriage cannot be dissolved by divorce only by annulment or a Declaration of Nullity of Marriage. We understand that both of these are costly and time-consuming procedures and not readily available

to contract workers in the CNMI. Generally, we understand that the grounds for annulment under Philippine law are as follows:

- Absence of parental consent to the marriage of a party who is over 18 but under 21 years of age;
- Mental illness;
- Fraud;
- Consent obtained by force, intimidation or undue influence;
- One party is physically incapable of consummating the marriage;
- Either party was, at the time of the marriage, afflicted with a serious or incurable sexually transmitted disease.

3. Declaration of Nullity of Marriage: This is an option under Philippine law for termination of marriage as an alternative to annulment. Generally the grounds for Declaration of Nullity of Marriage under Philippine law are as follows:

- If either party is under 18 (even with parental consent);
- Marriage solemnized by a person not legally authorized to do so;
- Marriage solemnized without a license;
- Bigamous or polygamous marriage;
- Mistake of identity as to one party by the other;
- Marriages between relatives (specifically defined);
- Psychological incapacity such as abnormal interpersonal behavior.

Please note that the grounds for annulment are more like traditional U.S. grounds for divorce; and grounds for a declaration of Nullity of Marriage are more like traditional U.S. grounds for annulment.

Please further note that this is an overview obtained from publicly available sources; neither one of us is admitted to practice in the Philippines. If you have specific questions about Philippine law, please consult a lawyer who is admitted to practice in the Philippines.

Marriage or remarriage

Once the former marriages of one or both parties are legally terminated or voided, the parties are free to marry. That seems pretty obvious. But there are remaining issues. If the parties were previously married to each other, but either of them was still married to someone else, do they need to remarry once the prior marriage is terminated or voided? Do they need to void their first marriage and get married for a second time? (These are not frivolous questions. We have clients with prior marriages who have been married to each other three times so far in an effort to clear their marital complications. It remains to be seen whether they need to get married for a fourth time.) In the past, we have advised our clients to simply remarry, without having their first marriage annulled, once all of their prior marriages were resolved. This has not previously been questioned by USCIS. Recently, however, a USCIS officer took the position that, in order for the marriage to be valid for immigration purposes, the prior marriage between the parties also needed to be voided in order for them to remarry.

As we said previously, marriage is a matter of state law and we now believe that CNMI law may provide us with an answer. 8 CMC §1321 provides as follows: "A decree annulling a marriage may be rendered on any ground existing at the time of the marriage which makes the marriage illegal and void or voidable. The court may, however, refuse to annul a marriage which has been ratified and confirmed by voluntary cohabitation after the obstacle to the validity of the marriage has ceased, unless the public interest requires

that the marriage be annulled."

So therefore it seems that if either husband or wife was still married to another person at the time of their own marriage, then, as long as they continued to live together and the prior marriage was terminated or voided, their first marriage would be valid and they would not need to annul the first marriage and marry for a second time; the first marriage is ratified and confirmed. However, this would still take a court procedure and an order from a Judge of the Superior Court. We haven't tested it, but we are aware of a naturalization application that was saved by this argument, although it took about 10 years to reach that point.

The general rule: when it comes to immigration, get those little secrets out of the closet early, and let your attorneys work to find a solution.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

PHANTOM

From Page 10

cal outreach to secular and proletarian Zhongguo, at a time when consumerism induces a hunger for the escapist shadows of Mt. Olympus, unmasks ideological CPC stalwarts. Episcopalian Bishop John Spong battles the archaic irrelevance of theistic transcendence within his own communion well after the enlightened faithful have all sought refuge elsewhere.

The second event occurs today in my Social Economy class where I will thunder across the classroom green board with six Ur images of human inventions on the culture pole of the economic-political-cultural continuum of the social process. One of those comes from the wildness of the awesome *ruah*, the desert wind. (For the other five, we'll just have to give a Humanities' lecture series at AMP when we return, wouldn't we?)

The human task is 6,000 years old in a planet 4.5 billion years of age. Retelling the human story and recreating the global mythology, of the mysterious and marvelous human journey, is the burning pedagogical task. Part of that story is the profoundly human response from the desert. Spirit singularity of reality is firmly adhered to, embodied and lived-out by the people of the book—the Torah, the Biblos, and the Koran. The mirage in the desert is the ultimate enemy, as illusion in contemporary psychology is a bane to human existence. Only reality is actually radically real!

The conflict between Jews, Christians and Muslims is one among kin of the same Ur. The conflict is in the myth, not the reality. Images at the holy of holies (there are five others in my mythical repertoire), that be of the Rabbi, the Parson, or the Imam, need not be aliens to each other in the inner sanctuary of reality. No chicken-doo-doo kidding!

30th Flame Tree Arts Festival

Photos by Haidee V. Eugenio



Acting governor Eloy S. Inos, right, joins the Koblerville Glee Club and other dignitaries in singing the American and CNMI national anthems at the opening ceremony for the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival at the American Memorial Park Saturday morning.



Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao, left, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, second from left, join acting governor Eloy S. Inos, right, in presenting plaques of recognition to the families of CNMI artists who have either passed away or retired.



Acting governor Eloy S. Inos, right, leads dignitaries in recognizing major sponsors for this year's Flame Tree Arts Festival, including DFS Galleria, represented by Wolf Mojica, second from right.



Male members of Alana'ia Dancers perform traditional dances from around the region.



A woman takes a close look at Leslie Ware's masterpieces.



A festival isn't complete without roast pig, just like this one.



A delegation from New Zealand, a first for the annual Flame Tree Arts Festival, performs traditional chants, songs and dances.



Tokie Mojica shows festival goers sample arts and crafts from the Marshall Islands.



Hanna Jang, a senior at Saipan Southern High School, shows some of her personally made ceramics wares.



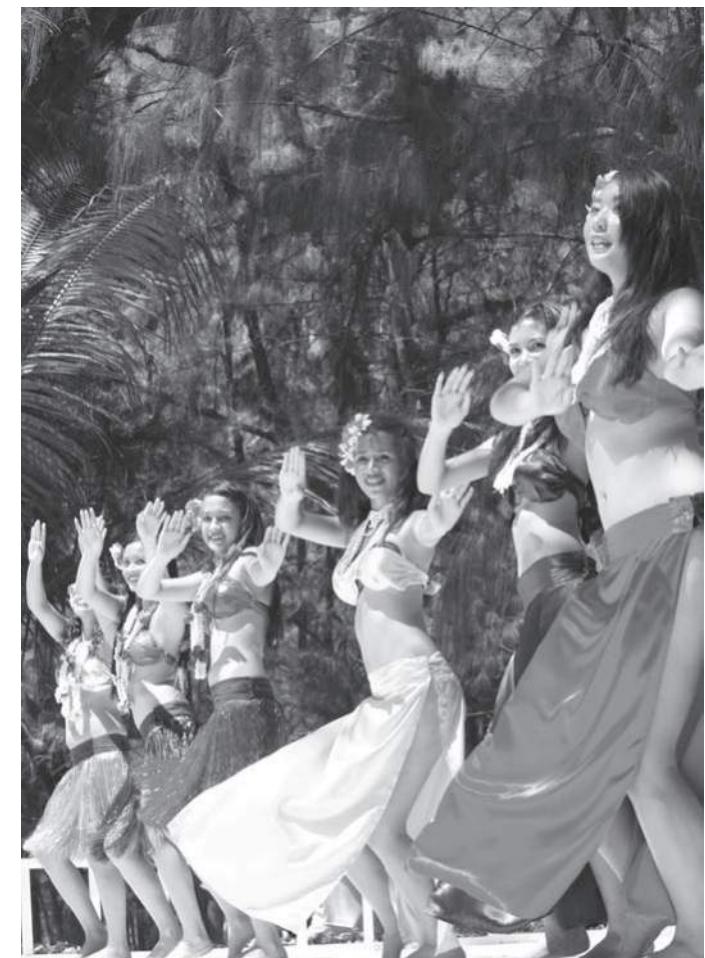
Some artwork on display and for sale on festival grounds.



Gina Reyes, right, walks past paintings and other artwork at the artist tent under Minerva Maghanoy's name.



The New Zealand delegation invites members of the audience to perform with them on stage.



Alana'ia Dancers give the crowd an hour of spectacular performance with different sets of costumes and dances.

Business

Checking accounts are set for an unwelcome transformation

NEW YORK (AP)—Free checking accounts may be one step closer to extinction.

Regulatory changes to be issued July 21 are expected to sharply limit the fees that banks can collect from merchants whenever customers pay with debit cards.

An attempt to delay implementing the rule by a year was narrowly defeated this week, meaning banks will be looking in earnest for ways to make up an estimated \$14 billion in lost revenue.

Customers have already seen the fallout start to take hold.

Bank of America is testing a new lineup of accounts that come with fees ranging from \$6 to \$25, depending on the level of service selected. Citi already revamped the terms on its checking accounts last year to include higher fees in many cases. Chase, PNC Bank and Wells Fargo ended or scaled back their debit rewards programs.

And more unwelcome changes are likely in store. Among the possibilities: Fees for debit cards and even a \$50 or \$100 cap on transactions.

"Banks have two ways they can cope; they can cut costs or they can raise revenue," says Bart Narter, a banking analyst with the consulting firm Celent. "They're going to have to charge you for things that they used to give away, like online bill pay."

Here's what consumers should watch:

Free Checking

It's still relatively easy to find a free checking account. But it's becoming more likely that there will be conditions you have to meet to avoid monthly fees.

You may have to do all your banking online, for example, rather than going into a branch. Or you may have to maintain a minimum balance or make a certain number of transactions every month.

Meanwhile, the availability of free checking accounts with no conditions shrank last year,

for the first time since 2003, according to Bankrate.com. Only 65 percent of checking accounts were free in 2010, down from 76 percent the previous year.

Much of that pullback was a response to another regulation last summer that prohibits banks from enrolling customers in overdraft programs without their consent. Overdraft fees, which are often \$35 or more per violation, were an important revenue stream for banks.

The new regulation on merchant fees is set to only further hasten the disappearance of free checking.

"It's going to be free checking with a lot more strings attached," Narter says. "Or free checking without the bells and whistles."

Debit Rewards

Rewards programs for debit card purchases are a valued perk for many checking account customers. But they may soon only be available to the top customers, if at all.

In April, Wells Fargo stopped enrolling new customers in its debit rewards program, citing the regulatory changes and costs facing the industry. The bank says it hasn't made any final decisions on whether the program will continue for customers who were already enrolled.

Chase has already made the decision to end debit rewards for both new and existing customers.

At PNC Bank, only premium customers will continue to earn debit card rewards. The bank is cutting off the perk for those with free checking accounts, roughly 70 percent of its customers.

ATM Fees

When customers use another bank's ATM, they can be slapped with two fees—one from their bank and one from the bank that owns the ATM. This is an easy opportunity for banks looking to raise revenue.

In some cases, banks may start imposing out-of-network fees on customers.

TD Bank, for example, says it will now impose a \$2 fee when customers use another bank's ATM. Other banks, such as Citi, have hiked their existing fees for using an out-of-network ATM.

Chase earlier this year even tested ATM fees of \$4 and \$5 for non-customers who used its ATMs in Texas and Illinois. But the bank dropped the tests a few months later without providing a reason. The fees in those states were lowered back to \$3.

New Fees & Products

Customers may also start seeing never-before-seen fees pop up. Chase, for example, is testing a \$3 monthly fee in northern Wisconsin for checking account customers who want a debit card.

Depending on how customers react, the bank may incorporate some of its test fees into its new lineup of accounts, slated to be rolled out by early next year.

Although a much more remote possibility, Chase has also said there have been discussions about capping debit purchases at \$50 or \$100 per transaction. But the bank likely would never risk following through on such a dramatic measure, notes Narter of Celent.

In other cases, customers who aren't able to maintain a minimum balance may be offered a prepaid card instead of a checking account. Prepaid cards, which are not subject to the new cap on merchant swipe fees, are not tied to checking accounts but work like debit cards and can be reloaded with cash.

Deeper Relationships

To offset the drop in revenue, banks are increasingly looking to deepen customer loyalty and capture a greater share of their business. So you may be offered fee waivers on checking accounts for opening additional accounts, whether it's a credit card, savings account or mortgage.

Bank of America is testing tiered accounts in Georgia, Massachusetts and Arizona. Those who maintain higher balances across accounts are rewarded with greater perks.

IMF targeted in cyberattack, extent not disclosed

NEW YORK (AP)—The International Monetary Fund, already reeling from last month's arrest of its former leader, is investigating an attack on its computer system. IMF spokesman David Hawley said the organization is fully functional. He declined to provide further details on what he termed an "IT incident," including its scope or nature and whether any sensitive data were taken. The IMF has confidential information on countries in financial trouble. The New York Times cited unnamed IMF officials as saying the attack was sophisticated and serious. The IMF told staffers about it on Wednesday but hasn't made a public announcement.

Nation

Weiner seeks leave of absence from House

Poll: Should Weiner resign?

What New Yorkers in his district say about U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., after he confessed to inappropriate online activity with women other than his wife:

• Should Anthony Weiner resign from Congress?

No 56%

Yes 33%

Unsure 12%

• Based on what you know of the scandal, do you question Weiner's

Personal judgment 46%

Professional judgment 10%

Both 29%

Neither 15%

• Weiner admitted he sent lewd photos online to women other than his wife; do you think he did:

Something unethical, not illegal 73%

Something illegal 11%

Nothing wrong 9%

Unsure 7%

Source: Marist poll of 512 New York City adults (411 registered voters), June 11, 2011; margin of error: +/-4.5 percentage points Graphic: Judy Treble

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This sordid

affair has become an unacceptable distraction for Representative Weiner, his family, his constituents and the House," Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, the party chairwoman, said in a written statement calling for the 46-year-old married lawmaker to step down.

The House Democratic leader, Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, said Weiner "has the love of his family, the confidence of his constituents and the recognition that he needs help. I urge Congressman Weiner to seek that help

Huge AZ wildfire spreads, health conditions worsen

SPRINGERVILLE, Ariz. (AP)—An eye-stinging, throat-burning haze of smoke spewing from a gigantic wildfire in eastern Arizona is beginning to stretch as far east as central New Mexico, prompting health officials to warn residents as far away as Albuquerque about potential respiratory hazards. The 672-square-mile blaze was no longer just an Arizona problem on Saturday as firefighters moved to counter spot fires sprouting up across the state line and lighting their own fires to beat it back. The forest fire remained largely uncontaminated and officials worried that the return of gusty southwesterly winds during the afternoon could once again threaten small mountain communities that had been largely saved just a few days ago.

Jury chooses death sentence for Tennessee man

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A jury issued a death sentence Saturday for a Memphis man found guilty of murdering the mother of his three children and then dismembering and disposing of her body. The jury reached its decision shortly before 7:30 p.m. EST in the case against 33-year-old James Hawkins. Hawkins' 15-year-old daughter, the prosecution's chief witness, had testified that her father repeatedly sexually abused her when she was 12 years old. The girl said she saw her father stab and strangle 28-year-old Charlene Gaither during an argument on Feb. 9, 2008. Hawkins' two sons, ages 13 and 14, also testified against him. It took less than two hours for the jury to convict Hawkins on Friday.

4 injured in dessert fire at Florida restaurant

PALM HARBOR, Fla. (AP)—Fire officials say a bananas foster dessert caught fire at a Florida restaurant and four people were burned, including a woman who had severe injuries. Officials with Palm Harbor Fire Rescue say the 151 alcohol poured into the dessert ignited Saturday night and splashed onto four customers. A 25-year-old woman was taken to a hospital with first- and second-degree burns. A 56-year-old woman also was taken to a hospital with respiratory burns. Two other people were burned but refused medical treatment. The injuries happened at the Ozona Blue Grill in the Palm Harbor suburb, northwest of Tampa. A website for the restaurant says it serves seafood and steaks with an Asian twist.

Charge filed in Salt Lake City motel murder case

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—A murder charge has been filed against a man in the death of a woman whose body was found stuffed in the wooden frame of a bed at a Salt Lake City motel. The Deseret News of Salt Lake City reports the charges were filed Friday in 3rd District Court against 28-year-old Thomas Kumalac. The body of 25-year-old Jessica Jensen was found June 2 at the Capitol Motel after a patron complained about an odor in her room. Kumalac was arrested the next day and booked into the Cache County Jail for investigation of murder. Prosecutors charged him Friday with murder, a first-degree felony, and obstruction of justice, a second-degree felony.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Obama: Economic recovery is 'going to take time'

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama says people need to be patient about the economic recovery and that training workers for manufacturing jobs will help with the turnaround. The recession didn't happen overnight and won't end that way, either, the president said Saturday in his weekly radio and online address. "It's going to take time," Obama said. Recent polling found broad disapproval with Obama's handling of the economy as the 2012 presidential election takes shape. It reached 59 percent in a Washington Post-ABC News poll. Job growth slowed sharply in May and unemployment inched up to 9.1 percent.

her call for a resignation had not changed because of it.

Weiner's spokeswoman, Risa Heller, said in the statement that the congressman departed during the morning "to seek professional treatment to focus on becoming a better husband and healthier person. In light of that, he will request a short leave of absence from the House of Representatives so that he can get evaluated and map out a course of treatment to make himself well."

The statement did not say where he would receive treatment, or what type was involved. Others familiar with his plans said he had left New York by air.

Also joining in calls for Weiner to quit was Rep. Steve Israel, D-N.Y., chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and a member of the party's leadership.

In an interview, Israel said he had told Weiner in a phone call during the day "that I was going to call on him to resign and he absorbed that. Obviously he had much more personal and pressing issues that he was addressing.

"He didn't give me any indication of whether he was going to resign or not," Israel said.

Pelosi also spoke with Weiner during the day to let him know that she, too, would be joining the calls for resignation.

Asia

AS CIA CHIEF VISITS

Blasts kill 34 in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan

(AP)—Two explosions went off minutes apart in the northwest Pakistani city of Peshawar Sunday, killing 34 people and injuring nearly 100 in one of the deadliest attacks since the U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden last month, officials said.

The blasts, one of which was caused by a suicide bomber, occurred just after midnight in an area of the city that is home to political offices and army housing.

The attack took place as CIA Director Leon Panetta and Afghan President Hamid Karzai visited Islamabad, 95 miles (150 kilometers) to the east, to speak separately with senior Pakistani officials about intelligence sharing and efforts to reconcile with the Taliban.

The first explosion was relatively small and drew police and rescue workers to the site, said Dost Mohammed, a senior local police official. A large explosion rocked the area a few minutes later, causing the fatalities and injuring 98 people, 18 critically, said Rahim Jan, a senior doctor at a local hospital.

The second blast was caused by a suicide bomber riding a motorcycle packed with 22 pounds (10 kilograms) of explosives, said Ejaz Khan, a senior police official. The source of the first explosion was unknown.

No group claimed responsibility, but the Pakistani Taliban have pledged to carry out attacks in retaliation for the covert U.S. Navy SEAL raid that killed bin Laden in an army town outside Islamabad on May 2.

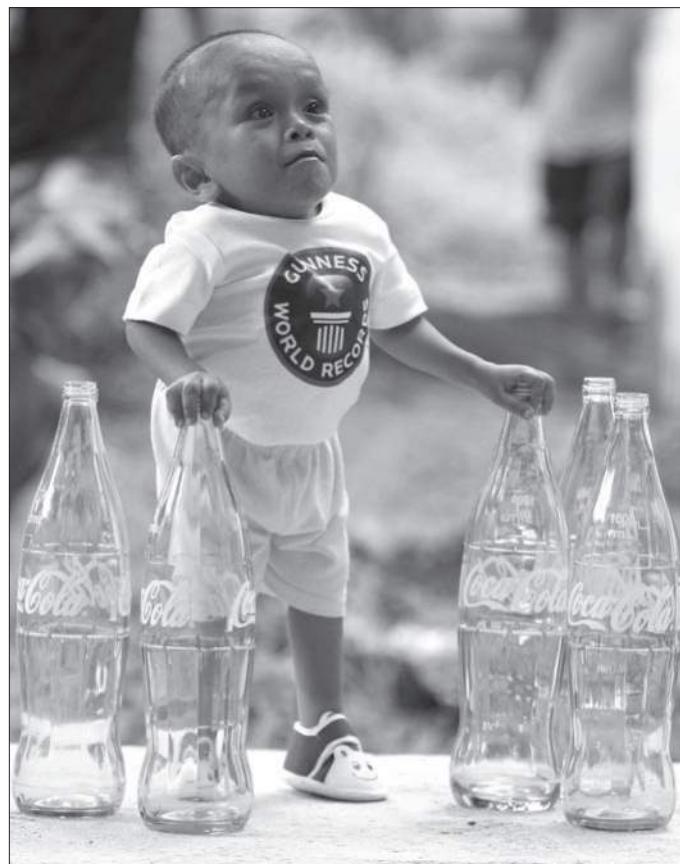
Saturday's attack took place across the street from the offices of the top political agent to Khyber, part of Pakistan's volatile tribal region, and only about

100 yards from army housing units. Peshawar borders the tribal region and has been repeatedly hit by bombings over the past few years.

The dead included at least one journalist, said Mohammed Farooq, a hospital doctor. Another four journalists and at least 10 police were injured, he

said. Many of the people killed were so badly burned they were difficult to identify.

Jamal Khan, a 22-year-old student, was in his apartment when the first blast went off. He rushed to the scene as the second explosion occurred, peppering his face and arms with flying debris.



SHORTEST MAN

Junrey Balawing poses for a Guinness World Records-hired photographer after a series of measurement conducted by its representative at Sindangan Health Center, Sindangan township, Zamboanga Del Norte province in Southern Philippines Saturday June 11, 2011, the eve of his 18th birthday which coincidentally is the Philippines Independence Day. Guinness official Craig Glenday has declared the son of a poor Filipino locksmith who measured 23.5 inches (60 centimeters) tall as the world's shortest man. Glenday said that Balawing broke the record of Khagendra Thapa Magar of Nepal, who is 26.4 inches (67 centimeters) tall. The announcement drew a loud applause from Balawing's parents and townmates in Sindangan, who showered the new celebrity with a feast, a cake, balloons and cash gifts.

Jay Dey was known for his reporting on Mumbai's underworld and had worked as investigative editor for the city's Mid-Day newspaper for more than 15 years, the paper said. Dey, 50, was shot five times at point-blank range in Mumbai's Powai suburb, Mid-Day chief reporter Vinod Kumar Menon said. Police said the four gunmen escaped aboard two motorcycles.

Police arrest 25 in southern China after clash

BEIJING (AP)—Police said Sunday that 25 people in southern China were arrested after a clash between street vendors and security forces, the second such recent incident highlighting government difficulties controlling widening social unrest. The arrests were made following a dispute between a migrant couple, who are street vendors, and security forces in Xintang town near Guangzhou city on Saturday night, police said. Such disputes are common, and bystanders often side with the vendors and accuse police of heavy-handed tactics. A statement posted on the Guangzhou police website said "troublemakers" blocked traffic and damaged vehicles, forcing police to "adopt measures to prevent the incident from further escalating."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Malaysia seeks to ban sites for illegal downloads

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Thousands of Malaysians joined an online protest Sunday against a government effort to block access to 10 popular websites often used to illegally download movies, TV shows and music. It is the biggest move to curb Internet entertainment piracy in Malaysia, which has long been accused by industry officials of not cracking down hard enough on the rampant sale of bootleg DVDs and CDs. The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission, a government regulatory body, said Friday that it wanted Internet service providers to block 10 websites that violated copyright laws. More than 6,500 people have since joined a Facebook page slamming the decision, with some saying the government had reneged on its pledge not to censor the Internet.

Gunmen kill Mumbai investigative journalist

MUMBAI, India (AP)—Four assailants gunned down a well-known investigative journalist Saturday and then escaped on motorcycles in the Indian commercial capital of Mumbai, police said.

World

Libya rebels battle into oil port near Tripoli

ZAWIYA, Libya (AP)—Libyan rebels battled their way back into a major oil port just 30 miles (50 kilometers) west of Tripoli on Saturday, forcing Moammar Gadhafi's troops to close the vital coast highway and key supply route from Tunisia. The renewed rebel offensive marked a significant rebound for opposition forces who were crushed and driven out of the city nearly three months ago.

Rebels first took Zawiya in early March, but were brutally expelled less than two weeks later in an assault by members of an elite brigade commanded by Gadhafi's son Khamis. That had left rebels with only tenuous footholds in Libya's far west. On Saturday, Guma el-Gamaty, a London-based spokesman for the rebels' political leadership council, said opposition fighters had taken control of a large area on the western side of the city. A rebel fighter who fled Zawiya at the end of March said "there are clashes inside Zawiya itself." The rebel, who identified himself only as Kamal, said "the fighters are back in the city" and that he had spoken with them.

While too early to mark a breakthrough in the stale-mated civil war between Gadhafi forces and the rebels, who control roughly the eastern third of the country, an opposition offensive so near the capital was bound to put a nearly intolerable burden on Gadhafi forces.

They have been riddled by defections, badly hurt by ongoing U.N.-sanctioned NATO airstrikes and facing huge supply problems as a result of the naval blockade that has clamped off ports. The international actions are designed to help the four-month-old rebel uprising to drive Gadhafi from nearly 40 years in power in the oil-rich North African country.

Apparently prompted by the Zawiya clashes Saturday, Libyan soldiers sealed off parts of a crucial coastal road leading from Tripoli west to the Tunisian border.

An AP reporter traveling the coastal highway approaching Zawiya from the capital reported it was clogged with soldiers and loyalist gunmen with assault rifles, some patrolling the road, others manning checkpoints. Roadside shops were shuttered. The only vehicles on the road were white jeep-style vehicles used by Gadhafi soldiers.

Civilian vehicles were directed onto a narrow agricultural road through olive groves and past grazing cattle and sprawling homes. Traffic on the agricultural road crawled past Zawiya and was only allowed back on the coastal highway at historic Roman-era town of Sabrata,

20 miles (30 kilometers) west of the fighting.

The coastal road is a key artery from neighboring Tunisia for delivery of food, fuel and medicine for the Gadhafi regime.

Shelling continued sporadically Saturday near the rebel-held port city of Misrata, where Gadhafi forces hit towns on the western outskirts of the city, 125 miles (210 kilometers) east of Tripoli. More than 30 rebels were reported killed in government fire from tanks, artillery and incendiary rockets that rained down on Dafniya, about 18 miles (30 kilometers) west of Misrata.

Casualty figures came from a doctor at Hikma Hospital in Misrata, who would only give his first name, Ayman. He said the shelling began Friday morning, intensified toward nightfall and continued periodically Saturday.

Displaced by disasters

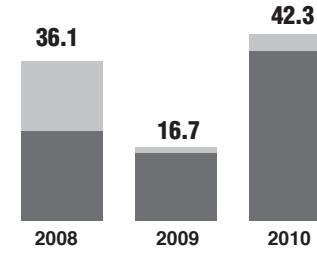
Worldwide, an estimated 42.3 million people were forced to leave their homes by natural disasters in 2010, more than double the number 2009.

Big picture

People displaced by disaster in millions

Geophysical (earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis)

Climate-related (floods, storms)



Major causes In 2010

Storms 5%

Earthquakes 10%

Floods 85%

Regions affected In 2010

Africa 4%

Americas 19%

Asia 77%

• 2008-2010

18 mega-disasters displaced more than 1 million people

• 86 disasters displaced more than 100,000 people

Top 10 displacements in 2010

Country	Disaster	Start date	Millions displaced
China	Flood	May 7	15.2
Pakistan	Flood	July 28	11.0
Chile	Earthquake	Feb. 27	2.0
Haiti	Earthquake	Jan. 1	1.5
Colombia	Flood	April 6	1.5
Colombia	Flood	July 1	1.5
Thailand	Flood	Oct. 10	1.0
Mexico	Flood	Sept. 20	0.8
Nigeria	Flood	Sept. 19	0.6
India	Flood	Sept. 5	0.5

Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

Graphic: Judy Treble

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WORLD BRIEFS

1998 US Embassy blasts suspect killed in Somalia

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—The al-Qaida mastermind behind the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania was killed this week at a security checkpoint in Mogadishu by Somali forces who didn't immediately realize he was the most wanted man in East Africa, officials said Saturday. The death of Fazul Abdullah Mohammed—a man who topped the FBI's most wanted list for nearly 13 years—is the third major strike in six weeks against the worldwide terror group that was headed by Osama bin Laden until his death last month. Mohammed had a \$5 million bounty on his head for planning the Aug. 7, 1998, embassy bombings. The blasts killed 224 people in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Most of the dead were Kenyans. Twelve Americans also died.

Family, activist among 11 killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD (AP)—Twin car bombings in the northern Iraq, and separate attacks on the homes of a schoolteacher and a human rights activist left at least 11 people dead on Saturday, government officials said. Violence is raking Iraq as the Shiite-led government and other political factions are debating a request for some American forces to remain in the country beyond the Dec. 31 deadline for all U.S. troops to withdraw after more than eight years. While violence is well below what it had been during intense Shiite-Sunni sectarian fighting in 2006 and 2007, militants are again stepping up deadly attacks. That has led to concerns about what happens when the 47,000 remaining U.S. troops are withdrawn. Police and hospital officials in the northern city of Mosul said two car bombs exploded in quick succession, killing six people.

Focus

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP)—There are no bombshells, no “gotcha” moments.

The emails of Sarah Palin—more than 24,000 pages of them released Friday by the state of Alaska from her first two years as governor—paint a picture of an image-conscious, driven leader, closely involved with the day-to-day duties of running the state and riding herd on the signature issues of her administration.

She angled for a vice presidential nomination months before John McCain picked her, but hesitated to endorse him until she got an explanation about “pro-environmental stands he’s taking that could hurt Alaska.”

The messages give a behind-the-scenes look at a politician who burst onto the national stage after serving as Wasilla mayor and less than two years as Alaska governor. They show a woman striving to balance work and home, fiercely protective of her family and highly sensitive to media coverage. She expressed a sometimes mothering side with aides but was quick to demand answers or accountability.

They seem to depict a more moderate Palin who worked to find a state response to global warming—she has since dismissed studies supporting climate change—and gave props to then-Sen. Barack Obama for his support of a natural gas pipeline in Alaska.

The records, comprising more than 13,400 emails, shed new light on Palin’s rise from little-known governor to national political sensation. The emails end in September 2008, shortly after her selection to be McCain’s running mate. It was then that citizens and news organizations first requested the records.

Three years later, Palin is a best-selling author, reality TV star, sought-after speaker and kingmaker, successfully supporting dozens of candidates in last year’s elections.

Her recent bus tour of the Northeast as well as an authorized documentary about her time as governor, have fueled speculation that Palin will run for president, but the Republican says she hasn’t yet decided.

In Anchorage, people watched the release of the emails with interest, some blaming the media for paying too much attention to the out-dated records.

“I personally think they’re afraid of her,” said Richard Giese, who sold flowers at the Anchorage Farmer’s Market on Saturday. “They’re digging up a lot of stuff, some of it true. I won’t deny that. But I think they are afraid of her for the election.”

Gail Sieberts, who was shopping at the market, called it a distraction.

“We’re glad she’s not here anymore,” she said. “Our state



AP
Reporters roll a cart across the street with boxes containing thousands of pages of Sarah Palin’s emails from her time as Alaska’s governor Friday, June 10, 2011 in Juneau, Alaska. The emails released Friday were first requested during the 2008 White House race by citizens and news organizations, including The Associated Press.

Palin emails show engaged leader who sought VP nomination

BECKY BOHRER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

They seem to depict a more moderate Palin who worked to find a state response to global warming—she has since dismissed studies supporting climate change—and gave props to then-Sen. Barack Obama for his support of a natural gas pipeline in Alaska.

is running better and we don’t need all the drama.”

While much of the country was taken by surprise when Palin became the Republican vice presidential candidate, her emails suggest she was angling for the slot for months, and that she may have been courted even earlier.

Palin’s scheduler sent her a note June 21, 2007, saying Gov. Mitt Romney—who was running for president—wanted to schedule a call to “catch up on things.” The aide said Mike Tabbles, her former chief of staff, said she probably wouldn’t be interested, and wondered how

she should proceed.

“What is his number? Since it may be partisan, I should do this without state assistance. Thanks!” Palin replied.

On Jan. 30, former Arkansas Mike Huckabee called, and Palin seemed to be leaning toward endorsing him in the Republican primary.

“He called. Very cool. Unless McCain calls, Huck’s a good pick for me, just fyi.”

On Feb. 4, 2008, Palin asked Lt. Gov. Sean Parnell to set up a conversation with Romney to “compare his social positions with Hucks... I’d like to take 10 sec of his valuable time.”

After the conversation later that day, she wrote: “Talked to Romney today! Thank you for hooking that up! Can’t believe he took the time. Talked to him about women in leadership. He said all the right things.”

On Feb. 20, Palin asked if she could speak to McCain at the National Governor’s Association meeting about why he opposed oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

“If anyone can help me hear from him on that, our state would appreciate it,” she said in an email to a representative of the Republican Governors Association. “I’ll have a tough

time explaining my support for him until I can say I spoke with him about my concerns re: any pro-environmental stands he’s taking that could hurt Alaska.”

As it became clear McCain would be the nominee, Palin’s staff turned their attention to him.

In June, Palin and her staff talked about plans to repeal Alaska’s fuel tax. Ivy Frye, an aide and friend, said she would send details to McCain staffers when they became available. “They’re going to love it!” she wrote. Spokeswoman Meghan Stapleton sent Palin a draft of an op-ed piece carrying the governor’s name that would be

pitched to national publications “beginning with the New York Times.” Palin responded the following day, writing: “Pls print.”

Despite all the effort, Palin seemed genuinely surprised when she got the nod: “Can you believe it!” she wrote to a staff member.

As the national attention intensified, Palin seemed frustrated and overwhelmed by the constant media spotlight. After the nomination and before, she became most angry when the attention was on her family.

“Man, that gossip crap bugs me,” she wrote on Oct. 1, 2007, referring to a column in the Anchorage Daily News. “Any time it has anything to do with home or family, it’s irritating.”

On Sunday, April 6, 2008, Palin’s father passed along reports that rumors swirling of daughter Bristol’s pregnancy were coming from the office of Palin critic and fellow Wasilla Republican Sen. Lyda Green. Palin asked aides to find out whether a newspaper reporter and television reporter had heard the rumor from the Green staffer or former Palin aide.

Palin called the circulating rumors “flippin’ unbelievable.”

“Bristol does want it squashed—we just don’t know how to do so without making it a bigger issue,” Palin wrote of her eldest daughter.

Palin already had denied speculation that Bristol was the mother of Palin’s fifth child, Trig, who was born with Down Syndrome.

“Even at Trig’s doc apt this morning his doc said that’s out there (hopefully NOT in their medical community-world, but it’s out there),” Palin wrote on April 22. “Bristol called again this afternoon asking if there’s anything we can do to stop this, as she received two girlfriend-type calls today asking if it were true.”

The delay in releasing Palin’s emails, which had been requested by media organizations and citizens, has been attributed largely to the sheer volume. The emails were sent and received by Palin’s personal and state email accounts, and the ones being released were deemed state business-related. Palin and top aides were known to communicate using private email accounts. The documents revealed at least three different private accounts for Palin.

The state withheld 2,275 pages for reasons including attorney-client, work product or executive privilege; an additional 140 pages were deemed to be “non-records,” or unrelated to state business.

Her supporters encouraged everyone to read the messages. “The emails detail a Governor hard at work,” said Tim Crawford, the treasurer of her political action committee, Sarah PAC, in a prepared statement.

Health & Fitness

Premature aging seen as issue for AIDS survivors

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Having survived the first and worst years of the AIDS epidemic, when he was losing three friends to the disease in a day and undergoing every primitive, toxic treatment that then existed, Peter Greene is grateful to be alive.

But a quarter-century after his own diagnosis, the former Mr. Gay Colorado, now 56, wrestles with vision impairment, bone density loss and other debilitating health problems he once assumed he wouldn't grow old enough to see.

"I survived all the big things, but now there is a new host of things. Liver problems. Kidney disease. It's like you are a 50-year-old in an 80-year-old body," Greene, a San Francisco travel agent, said. "I'm just afraid that this is not, regardless of what my non-HIV positive friends say, the typical aging process."

Even when AIDS still was almost always fatal, researchers predicted that people infected with HIV would be more prone to the cancers, neurological disorders and heart conditions that typically afflict the elderly. Thirty years after the first diagnoses, doctors are seeing these and other unanticipated signs of premature or "accelerated" aging in some long-term survivors.

Government-funded scientists are working to tease apart whether the memory loss, arthritis, renal failure and high blood pressure showing up in patients in their 40s and 50s are consequences of HIV, the drugs used to treat it or a cruel combination of both. With people over 50 expected to make up a majority of U.S. residents infected with the virus by 2015, there's some urgency to unraveling the "complex treatment challenges" HIV poses to older Americans,



In this photo taken June 1, 2011, Randy Blach, left, speaks with Dr. Malcolm John at UCSF's 360: Positive Care Center in San Francisco.

according to the National Institutes of Health.

In those with long-term HIV infection, the persistent activation of immune cells by the virus likely increases the susceptibility of these individuals to inflammation-induced diseases and diminishes their capacity to fight certain diseases," the federal health agency's chiefs of infectious diseases, aging and AIDS research wrote, summing up the current state of knowledge on last September's National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day. "Coupled with the aging process, the extended exposure of these adults to both HIV and antiretroviral drugs appears to increase their risk of illness and death from cardiovascular, bone, kidney, liver and lung disease, as well as many cancers not associated directly with HIV infection."

In San Francisco, where already more than half of the 9,734 AIDS cases are in people 50 and over, University of California, San Francisco AIDS specialists are collaborating with geriatricians, pharmacists and nutritionists to develop treatment guidelines designed to help veterans of the disease cope with getting frail a decade or two ahead of schedule and to remain independent for as long as possible.

"Wouldn't it be helpful to be able to say, are you at high risk, low risk or moderate risk for progressing to dependency in the next five, the next 10 years, being less mobile, less able to be functional in the workplace. Are you going to be safe in your home, are you going to remember to take all those medications? How are they going to interact?" explained Dr. Malcolm John, who directs UCSF's HIV clinic. "All those questions need to be brought into the HIV field at a younger age."

Research so far suggests that HIV is not directly causing conditions that mimic old age, but hastens patients toward ailments to which they may have been genetically or environmentally predisposed. Plus, their immune systems are being weakened over time even when they are being successfully treated for AIDS, John said.

"That's probably true for a lot of these things. We aren't saying HIV's starting the problem, but it's added fuel on top," he said.

Stokes, a patient of John's who goes by only his last name, is a prime example. At 53, HIV-positive since 1985 and in substance abuse recovery for the last 11 years, he says he is happier than he ever has been. Yet the number of ailments for which he is being treated would be more commonly found in someone 30 years his senior: a condition called Ramsay Hunt syndrome that causes facial paralysis, a rare cartilage disorder for which he has undergone four ear surgeries, bone death in the

hip and shoulder, deterioration of his heart muscle, osteoporosis and memory loss.

At his therapy group for men with HIV, aging "comes up frequently," he said. "I say, 'Just think what we have come through to have a life today.'" At the same time, he acknowledges sometimes feeling self-conscious about his physical appearance and worries if "people are not attracted to me and unwilling to go the length of what it means to be with me, no matter how brilliant my mind or my zest for life."

Loneliness, financial worries and concerns about who will care for them and where can weigh on long-term AIDS survivors in the same way as all adults living in a society that values youth, Charles

Emlet, a social work professor at the University of Washington, Tacoma, said.

As they get older and sicker, many feel "doubly stigmatized," he said. Some people who have lived with the virus for a long time have been getting by on private disability benefits that will run out when they turn 65, forcing them to move to less expensive locations or to consider turning to estranged family members. Like soldiers from a distant war, many lost partners and their closest friends to AIDS.

Such emotional side effects, combined with the physical toll of managing chronic health problems, put older AIDS patients at risk for depression. At the same time, Emlet has uncovered evidence that a majority of long-term survivors also share another trait that typically comes with advanced age: that is, the ability to draw strength from their difficult experiences.

Personal Trainer

Types of basketball injuries

Even a casual game of basketball puts heavy pressure on feet and ankles, and careless players or those with poor shoes are often injured.

Acute injury

Sudden, accidental blow; difficult to prevent

Landing
improperly
after jump

Twisting fall

Midair
collision

Lunging for
rebound

Scrambling for
loose ball



Chronic, or overuse, injury

Develops slowly; damage worsens over months, years

Typical causes

Inadequate
warmup
Poor
conditioning
Improper,
ill-fitting or
worn-out shoes
High arches, flat feet, bow
legs or tight calf muscles



Most common

- Ankle sprains
- Torn ligament
- Muscle pull
- Tendon rupture
- Broken bone



- Stress fracture
- Plantar fasciitis*
- Shin splints
- Achilles heel
- Tendinitis
- Blisters

*Injury on sole of foot



Court surface

Risk of both types highest on paved outdoor courts, especially concrete; lowest on wood indoor courts

How to respond

After a bad fall or twist, stop playing at once; apply ice and compression bandage, elevate leg and see physician if necessary



Reduce activity
according to
seriousness
of injury



Keeping cool tips

Summer's heat may be sizzling, but you and your family can stay cool, even without air conditioning.

Appliances

• Avoid using heat-generating units, such as ovens and dryers, during the hottest hours; turn electric lights on only when necessary

Windows

• Keep blinds, shutters or curtains closed during the heat of the day; install a window fan

Basement

• If you have one, spend time there during the hottest hours

Attic fan

• Draws heat out of the house; if you have one, use it with or without AC

Circulating fans

• Ceiling, table and floor fans keep air circulating; use even if you have AC

Children, elderly

• Make sure they drink plenty of fluids, stay out of the hot sun; take trips to air-conditioned movie theaters, malls, senior or recreation centers

Pets

• Provide shade, plenty of water; walk dogs in the early morning or at night



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Source: Ohio State Board of Health, ASPC
Graphic: Pat Carr, Lee Hulteng

Life & Style

Lady Gaga sings 'Born This Way' at Roman pride rally

ROME (AP)—Lady Gaga sang a few bars of her smash hit "Born This Way" and demanded the end of discrimination against gays as she proclaimed herself a "child of diversity" at a gay pride rally Saturday night in the ancient Circus Maximus.

The star, whose "Born This Way" album recently topped 1 million sales in a week, delighted tens of thousands of people at a brief concert in the vast field where the ancient Roman masses would gather for spectacles.

Wearing a green wig, she played the piano and sang a few numbers. But she devoted much of her appearance after an annual European gay pride parade to denounce intolerance and discrimination against gays and transgender people. Among the places she cited was the Middle East, Poland, Russia and Lithuania.

Lady Gaga told the crowd she is often asked: "How gay are you, Lady Gaga?"

"My answer is: 'I am a child of diversity.'"

She also proudly cited her Italian roots—saying she was really named Stefania Giovanna Angelina Germanotta.

And she told fans her costume—a sleek black top with one bare shoulder and billowing plaid skirt—were from the last collection of Gianni Versace.

Decrying intolerance of homosexuality, Lady Gaga lamented that young people who are gay are susceptible to "suicide, self-loathing, isolation."



US singer Lady Gaga performs on stage during the Europride gay rights march, at Rome's Circus Maximus, Saturday, June 11, 2011.

Many in the crowd had participated in an hours-long parade of colorful floats and brightly costumed marchers through Rome's historic center before the rally. The events were part of the annual Europride day to encourage gay rights on the continent.

Lady Gaga praised her audience for its "great courage" which she says inspires her.

Europride organizers hope the event will draw attention to discrimination gays face in many parts of the world. The U.S. ambassador was among those who invited Lady Gaga to Rome.

"I am so honored to be here," Lady Gaga said, recalling how,

earlier in the day, she lay naked in silk sheets in her hotel room and enjoyed the din of adoring fans and packs of photographers in the street below.

Organizers said Rome was a significant choice of venue, since it is home to the Vatican, which staunchly opposes legislation that would recognize same-sex marriage or adoption by gay couples.

Others hoped the turnout would send a message to Premier Silvio Berlusconi, the Italian leader dogged by a sex scandal involving an alleged 17-year-old Moroccan prostitute. The billionaire media mogul triggered outrage from gay

rights groups last fall when he contended during a public appearance that it was "better to be passionate about a beautiful girl than a gay."

Berlusconi's equal opportunity minister, a woman, defended the premier, saying he had just been joking and had no intention of offending gays. A government undersecretary further provoked protests when she said she was sure "all Italian parents hope to have heterosexual children."

The premier, who is on trial in Milan for allegedly paying the teenager for sex and then using his office to try to cover it up, has denied any wrongdoing.

Reports of The Decemberists' demise exaggerated

MANCHESTER, Tenn. (AP)—Colin Meloy is known for his brainy wordplay but there are two words he'd like to have back: "Long hiatus."

Those words, uttered in an interview, rippled across the Twitterverse and left many with the impression that Meloy's band, The Decemberists, are breaking up.

"Nothing could be farther from the truth," Meloy said Saturday on his tour bus in the parking lot behind Bonnaroo's big stage. "With this record I feel we have a whole world in front of us with plenty of options and I'm excited to continue writing music for The Decemberists and performing with The Decemberists."

He just wants to do something else for a while.

Driven by a powerful lead song, "Down by the Water," that featured harmony from Gillian Welch, "The King is Dead" hit No. 1 on the all-genre Billboard 200 earlier this year, a

rare feat for an indie folk rock band known for its challenging material. A top-selling record is often a bonanza for a band and the impulse is to tour nonstop to capitalize on the opportunity.

Yet The Decemberists will wind down touring in August and won't tour in the fall. Instead Meloy, who calls himself "compulsively creative," will begin promoting his new illustrated young adult book "Wildwood," the first in a fantasy series for HarperCollins he plans to produce with his wife, the artist Carson Ellis.

The book idea predates The Decemberists when Meloy worked in a pizza place and played open mic gigs and Ellis worked in a bar and painted in her free time.

"I've managed to pull it off over the last year and a half but it owes a lot to chance and luck and, thankfully, some creative epiphanies," Meloy said. "I think it would water down both things if I tried to do them

Long waits for new songs are nothing new to fans of The

Decemberists. It took three years between the band's complicated breakthrough, "The Crane Wife," and the 2009 release of "Hazards of Love." It took another two years for "The King is Dead" to come out. Fans waited patiently and were rewarded with something a little different.

"Going into this it felt right to sit down and write some simple, pretty songs, but as it turns out the simple, pretty songs in this day and age are what people are into," Meloy said.

And he thinks they'll be waiting for more after ... time away?

"I just assume that they'll still be there in three years," Meloy said. "And also we're not a band that's afraid to take risks, and if this seems risky it doesn't really bother me. I think we've taken bigger risks in the past. I'm just following my whim and I think that's what The Decemberists have been all along, and I think that's why we have our audience."

Troops celebrate Queen's birthday

LONDON (AP)—With his face half-hidden under a bear-skin hat, Prince William rode through central London on horseback Saturday as part of his grandmother Queen Elizabeth II's official birthday celebration.

The newlywed prince is taking part in the annual "Trooping the Colour," a procession held every year to mark the monarch's birthday.

His new bride Kate Middleton—now officially the Duchess of Cambridge—joined the royal family, riding in a horse-drawn carriage alongside William's younger brother Prince Harry, Camilla the Duchess of Cornwall and Prince Andrew, the Duke of York.

She wore an ivory jacket and black hat, and had pulled a blanket with a tartan pattern over her knees to ward off the early summer chill.

The queen turned 85 in April, but the public party for the monarch's birthday is held on a Saturday in June when the weather is better. The custom dates from 1748.

William wore same red Irish Guards tunic with a blue sash that he wore at his April 29 wedding at Westminster Abbey and rode on a gray charger.

Earlier on, the queen had awarded a set of honors on actors, sportsmen, academics, civil servants and members of the public who are judged to have made an exceptional contribution to society.

British actor Colin Firth, who won an Oscar for por-

traying the queen's father King George VI in "The King's Speech," was named a Commander of the British Empire or CBE in the Birthday Honors List.

Britain's honors are bestowed twice a year by the monarch—at New Year's and on her official birthday in June—but recipients are selected by committees of civil servants from nominations made by the government and the public.

In descending order, the honors are knighthoods, CBE, OBE and MBE—Member of the Order of the British Empire. Knights are addressed as "sir" or "dame." Recipients of the other honors have no title but can put the letters after their names.

Most of the honors go to people who are not in the limelight, for services to their community or industry, but they also reward a sprinkling of famous faces. This year, 965 people will receive awards.

Bank of England Gov. Mervyn King will receive an enhanced knighthood—a Knight Grand Cross. Robert Edwards, who won a Nobel Prize in 2010 for his work on in-vitro fertilization, will also receive a knighthood.

Singer and songwriter Bryan Ferry was made a CBE while golfer Lee Westwood and cricket captain Andrew Strauss each receive an OBE or Order of the British Empire.

Artist Sam Taylor-Wood and jazz singer Claire Martin also received OBEs.



Britain's Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, left, and Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, return to Buckingham Palace after the Trooping the Color ceremony at the Horse Guards Parade, marking the official birthday of the Queen in London, Saturday, June 11, 2011.

Jolie-Pitt Foundation donates \$500,000 to Joplin

JOPLIN, Mo. (AP)—Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are donating \$500,000 from their foundation to help Joplin rebuild from the deadly tornado that struck the southwest Missouri town last month.

The Community Founda-

tion of the Ozarks says the gift from the Jolie-Pitt Foundation will go to mid- and long-term needs in the tornado-ravaged city. The Community Foundation announced the gift Friday in a news release.

Tracy Morgan apologizes for anti-gay comedy rant

NEW YORK (AP)—Tracy Morgan said Friday that he was sorry for telling an audience in Nashville, Tenn., that if his son were gay, he would “pull out a knife and stab” him.

The comedian and “30 Rock” actor apologized to his fans and the gay and lesbian community for what he called “my choice of words” during his June 3 appearance at the Ryman Auditorium. A Facebook account posted by an audience member said Morgan’s stand-up performance was full of homophobic references. The Ryman issued its own apology afterward for Morgan’s behavior.

Morgan’s outbursts triggered heated comment on Twitter, making him a “trending” topic



Morgan

Thursday and Friday.

Meanwhile, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation called on Morgan to remove anti-gay remarks from his show “and send a strong message that anti-gay violence is not something to joke about.”

The Human Rights Campaign said apologizing wasn’t enough. The gay civil rights organization it said Morgan “now has a responsibility to make amends for his horribly hurtful and dangerous ‘comedy’ routine.”

In his statement, Morgan, who has three sons, denied being a hateful person and acknowledged that “even in a comedy club” what he said went too far “and was not funny in any context.”

Hollywood’s elite joined China’s biggest stars at the Shanghai Grand Theater to usher in the 14th edition of the country’s leading international film festival on Saturday—in a sign of respect for what is fast becoming one of the American movie industry’s key foreign markets.

Chinese box office numbers surged 64 percent to hit \$1.5 billion in 2010. And despite import

Pitt grew up in southwest Missouri and says in the release that he spent much of his childhood in the area and knows the people to be “especially resilient.”

The May 22 tornado de-

stroyed more than 8,000 homes and 400 businesses. The death toll was 151 as of Friday, including several victims who died as a result of injuries suffered in the storm.

Paris bar honors The Doors but may have to close them

PARIS (AP)—The walls of the Paris bar are plastered with images of Jim Morrison and The Doors, and a bust of the lead singer presides over the beer tap—all part of the owner’s lifelong passion for the band. But an attorney for the group doesn’t love it madly.

Christophe Maillet said he received a letter from a Beverly Hills, California-based attorney warning that “The Doors do not want to be seen as having approved of your establishment and also the consumption of alcohol.”

The April 21 letter—signed by Anthony Keats, The Doors’ intellectual property lawyer, and shown Friday to The Associated Press—urged Maillet to remove images of the group from his bar within three months. Not an easy task.

The walls feature oversized close-ups of Morrison and framed photos and posters of the band. And there’s that bust of the flowing-locked singer at the tap.

Morrison, known for a party-

ing lifestyle, died in 1971 at age 27 of heart failure in his bathtub in Paris—just minutes from Maillet’s bar. Morrison’s grave at Pere Lachaise cemetery remains a pilgrimage site for fans.

Doors lawyer Keats did not respond to email and phone messages Friday about the letter.

The decorations are from Maillet’s own collection—the fruit of 25 years as a dedicated fan, he said.

“I found my passion for Jim Morrison at the age of 12,” said the soft-spoken bartender. “Then I found a profession that could go along with it.”

“Since I started in this business, my goal was to start a bar dedicated to Jim Morrison.”

After nearly a decade spent working at other people’s establishments, Maillet’s dream came true nine months ago when he opened the “Lezard King”—a play on Morrison’s nickname, the “lizard king.” Because he worried about possible copyright issues, Maillet used the French word for lizard, he said.



AP
Bar owner Christophe Maillet, 37, speaks during an interview with The Associated Press in his bar, The Lezard King, located in the Marais district in Paris, Friday, June 10, 2011.

best jazz book (“I Walked With Giants”). The winners, chosen in voting by the Jazz Journalists Association, include Dee Dee Bridgewater (female singer), Kurt Elling (male singer), Anat Cohen (clarinet), Russell Malone (guitar) and Fred Hersch (piano).

Circus performer plunges 20 ft. at Colorado show

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—A Ringling Bros. Circus performer has been taken to a hospital after falling 20 feet before a Colorado Springs crowd. The Colorado Springs Gazette reports that the performer was carted out of the World Arena during an intermission at the circus Saturday. Ringling Bros. production manager Chan-

tal Stringer says the performer had been preparing for an act that required he climb in and out of a wheel that rotates on an axis. He was outside of the wheel when he plunged onto what circusegoer John Flores described as a thin piece of padding. Flores says the performer landed on his right shoulder. Stringer says the performer, who has not been named, seemed to be in “good spirits” and “doing fine” Saturday evening. The cause of the fall is under investigation.

MJ merchandiser sues perfumer over star’s image

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A Las Vegas perfumer promoted by Michael Jackson’s father is being sued for using the name of

Mom thinks daughter’s closet door was opened by her mentor

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My daughter recently told us she is attracted to women. I feel she has been unduly influenced by her mentor/professor at her college, as she quoted this woman several times when she “came out.”

My daughter has always been quiet and shy. She finds it difficult to make eye contact with anyone. How am I to accept this, especially since I feel her mentor took advantage of the situation? I am finding it difficult to function at all. I love my daughter very much. This just hurts.



Dear Abby

DEAR MOM AT A LOSS: I understand this has been a shock for you, and for that you have my sympathy. It is possible that your daughter has always been quiet and shy because she was wrestling with who she is, so the fact that she told you her feelings is a good thing.

Because you are hurting, it would be helpful for you to talk to other parents of lesbians and gays. They can help you through this period of adjustment. You can find support by contacting PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) by calling (202) 467-8180 or logging onto www.pflag.org. If you do, you’ll be better able to support your child.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married eight years and have two children. Our marriage has had its share of ups and downs, but we always manage to survive the bad times.

My problem is my husband sleeps on the couch 95 percent of the time instead of in our bed. He makes excuses such as he “fell asleep watching TV,” or “the kids were sleeping in our bed”—even when they weren’t. He even goes to sleep on the couch after we have had sex.

I don’t like sleeping by myself every night, and I have tried to explain how upsetting this is to me. My little girl has even asked why Daddy sleeps on the couch. Any suggestions?

MISSING MY SNUGGLE, MELBOURNE, FLA.

DEAR MISSING YOUR SNUGGLE: Yes. Have you asked your husband why he’s not in bed with you anymore? Your statement that he leaves for the couch after you have had sex could indicate that one or both of you may have a sleeping disorder that prevents him getting enough rest. But you’ll never find out unless you can get him to level with you about what the problem is.

DEAR ABBY: My darling wife died not long ago. I’m still grieving. Please tell me what to do when women show up as if I’m available to date. They’re not shy. I’m not interested in anyone, especially since my wife just passed away. I am still emotionally attached to her, and I don’t want that feeling to fade.

Abby, these women are forward and aggressive. I can’t believe how some of them dress. I miss my wife. I truly loved her and continue to do so. I know in time I’ll meet someone, but I’m not ready to jump out there because my heart still belongs to my wife. I welcome your advice, Abby.

HUNTSVILLE WIDOWER

DEAR WIDOWER: Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your beloved wife. Because you wrote to me in longhand rather than via the Internet, I’m assuming you are an older gentleman. Available men in your demographic are hard to find, which is probably why you’re under siege by the casserole brigade. Actually, it’s a compliment that they’re lining up. However, because you’re not ready to move in that direction, politely tell the women you prefer to be left alone right now to sort out your feelings. And, if anything changes, you will let them know.

DEAR ABBY is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



Hi, DAD. IT'S ME, CALVIN!
HOW'S WORK GOING? UH HUH... PRETTY DAY OUT, ISN'T IT?... YEP....
ARE YOU BRINGING ME HOME ANY PRESENTS TONIGHT?... NOT WELL, JUST THOUGHT I'D ASK...

By Bill Waterson

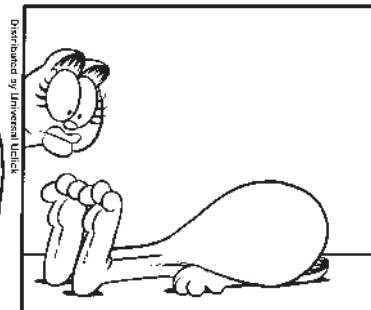


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HERE COMES ARLENE. BETTER SUCK IT IN
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By Jim Davis



Adam@home



WE SHOULD OPEN OUR TEA AND LEMONADE STAND AGAIN. GOOD IDEA! IT'S SOOO HOT OUTSIDE. WE'LL MAKE MILLIONS! I'LL GET THE TABLE AND CUPS. I'LL MAKE THE DRINKS. IN THIS ECONOMY, PEOPLE WANT TO FEEL LIKE THEY'RE GETTING A DEAL. HMM. LET'S OFFER THEM 2-FOR-1, BUT DOUBLE THE PRICE.

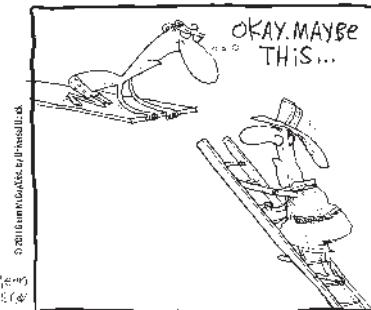
By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



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TRAPPED ON THE HIGH DIVE. TOO SCARED TO MOVE. ALL THE POOL HOTTIES WATCHING...
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BE MORE EMBARRASSING?

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	Consume	57	—	20	Can.	20	Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Get involved in
1 Gorilla	fully	Angeles	prov.	21	Scottish	hillside	21	you as much as you can them, but don't let
4 Year-end	38	Priestly	58	Acquires	22	Greek	22	anything or anyone cost you financially. A prob-
visitor	vestment	59	Resort	23	vowel	lumber	23	lem at home due to a misunderstanding or emo-
9 Col.	40	Work-	1	Request	24	Flaws in	24	tional issue should be dealt with carefully. ☀
Sanders'	week end	DOWN	2	Skillet	25	Dam org.	25	VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Follow
chain	(Abbr.)	41	Weeded,	3	Id counter-	of 1933	26	your intuition rather than trusting some-
12 Droop	in a way	42	in a way	4	part	27	one to tell you the truth. If you don't	
13 Up to	the point	43	Rented	5	Learned	Additional	27	base your moves on what you know to be fact,
the point	that	45	Wild	6	one	30	you could lose a deal. Being aggressive will	
14 Ultra-	horse	47	Anti-	7	Foolish	Sahara-	28	help you reach our goals and will open a win-
modernist	quated	48	Have a	8	Super	like	29	dow of opportunity. ☀
15 Tennes-	city	49	bug	9	Bowl org.	30	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get your	
see	48	It's all in	50	Stories	10	Unstable	31	thoughts out in the open where they can
17 Cheerios	ingredient	your	51	Sports	11	particle	32	actually do you some good. Your insight
18 Moving	head	52	venues	12	May I do	34	will be appreciated and could help you advance.	
truck	54	Hockey	53	Cheaper	13	that for	35	Love and romance are highlighted. Travel could
19 Makes	surface	55	"What's	5	copies	14	lead to relocation in the near future. ☀	
into law	in —?	56	in —?"	6	10	35	VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Follow	
21 Revealing	56	Rowing	57	Accom-	11	TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Pleasure	27	your intuition rather than trusting some-
swimsuit	need	58	need	12	plishment	12	one to tell you the truth. If you don't	
24 Polio	59	16	17	13	11	13	base your moves on what you know to be fact,	
vaccine	fully	18	19	14	12	14	you could lose a deal. Being aggressive will	
pioneer	fully	20	20	15	11	15	help you reach our goals and will open a win-	
25 Director	59	17	21	16	10	16	dow of opportunity. ☀	
Howard	59	18	22	17	9	17	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get your	
26 Explosive	59	19	23	18	8	18	thoughts out in the open where they can	
letters	59	20	24	19	7	19	actually do you some good. Your insight	
28 Leaf pore	59	21	25	20	6	20	will be appreciated and could help you advance.	
31 Teensy	59	22	26	21	5	21	Love and romance are highlighted. Travel could	
bit	59	23	27	22	4	22	lead to relocation in the near future. ☀	
33 A Gabor	59	24	28	23	3	23	VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Follow	
sister	59	25	29	24	2	24	your intuition rather than trusting some-	
35 Get an —	59	26	30	25	1	25	one to tell you the truth. If you don't	
effort	59	27	31	26	1	26	base your moves on what you know to be fact,	
		28	32	27	1	27	you could lose a deal. Being aggressive will	
		29	33	28	1	28	help you reach our goals and will open a win-	
		30	34	29	1	29	dow of opportunity. ☀	
		31	35	30	1	30	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get your	
		32	36	31	1	31	thoughts out in the open where they can	
		33	37	32	1	32	actually do you some good. Your insight	
		34	38	33	1	33	will be appreciated and could help you advance.	
		35	39	34	1	34	Love and romance are highlighted. Travel could	
		36	40	35	1	35	lead to relocation in the near future. ☀	
		37	41	36	1	36	VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Follow	
		38	42	37	1	37	your intuition rather than trusting some-	
		39	43	38	1	38	one to tell you the truth. If you don't	
		40	44	39	1	39	base your moves on what you know to be fact,	
		41	45	40	1	40	you could lose a deal. Being aggressive will	
		42	46	41	1	41	help you reach our goals and will open a win-	
		43	47	42	1	42	dow of opportunity. ☀	
		44	48	43	1	43	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get your	
		45	49	44	1	44	thoughts out in the open where they can	
		46	50	45	1	45	actually do you some good. Your insight	
		47	51	46	1	46	will be appreciated and could help you advance.	
		48	52	47	1	47	Love and romance are highlighted. Travel could	
		49	53	48	1	48	lead to relocation in the near future. ☀	
		50	54	49	1	49	VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Follow	
		51	55	50	1	50	your intuition rather than trusting some-	
		52	56	51	1	51	one to tell you the truth. If you don't	
		53	57	52	1	52	base your moves on what you know to be fact,	
		54	58	53	1	53	you could lose a deal. Being aggressive will	
		55	59	54	1	54	help you reach our goals and will open a win-	
		56	59	55	1	55	dow of opportunity. ☀	
		57	59	56	1	56	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get your	
		58	59	57	1	57	thoughts out in the open where they can	
		59	59	58	1	58	actually do you some good. Your insight	

Saturday's answer 6-13

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

2	9		4	3
1	5			
3	8			1
8	4	1	7	
6			2	
7	5	8		
	6	5	1	7
7	5	8		8
2	4	9	6	5

Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

2	7	5	9	1	4	6	3	8
9	1	6	8	7	3	5	4	2
4	8	3	2	5	6	7	9	1
8	3	2	7	6	9	1	5	4
7	6	1	5	4	8	3	2	9
5	9	4	1	3	2	8	6	7
1	4	9	6	8	5	2	7	3
3	5	8	4	2	7	9	1	6
6	2	7	3	9	1	4	8	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

6/13

WONDERWORD®</p

One win from title, Mavs not getting excited yet



Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki, right, and Jason Kidd stretch during a practice session for Game 6 of the NBA Finals against the Miami Heat, Saturday, June 11, 2011, in Miami. The Mavericks lead the basketball series, 3-2.



MIAMI (AP) — Here's where all their age and experience, heartbreak and disappointment actually benefit Dirk Nowitzki and the Dallas Mavericks.

They've had two days to get ready for Game 6 of the NBA finals—plenty of time to daydream about commissioner David Stern handing them the shiny, gold Larry O'Brien Trophy as confetti falls and they pull on hats and T-shirts with the words 2011 NBA champions.

Yet their steely resolve remains.

They're strictly thinking about what it will take to beat the Miami Heat on Sunday night, not what will happen if they do.

"I don't allow myself to sit back and relax now," Nowitzki said Saturday. "In these playoffs, one win or one loss can switch the whole momentum. You don't ever want a snowball to start. I don't allow myself to sit back all of a sudden and be satisfied. We got one more big win hopefully to get, and then I can be satisfied."

Nowitzki isn't giving his version of the "one game at a time" cliche. He's been this way the last two months—the last five years, really, ever since the Mavericks went from being on the verge of taking a 3-0 lead in the 2006 finals to losing in six games. The Mavs wound up watching the Miami Heat celebrate their first championship on Dallas' floor.

Nowitzki and Jason Terry are the only players left from that club, and the emotional scars from that collapse haven't healed.

They could Sunday night.

But until it happens, they aren't about to let their guard down. Terry, for instance, said Saturday he's still haunted by the memory of his off-target jumper that could've sent the

'06 finale into overtime.

"Sometimes middle of the night, a lot of times first thing when I wake up in the morning," he said. "Definitely every day when I walk into that gym, into that arena. It's something you live with."

The burden remains for everyone else in the organization.

Case in point: owner Mark Cuban's continued silence, likely to be cracked only when the series is done.

"I think the first time in the finals, the experience was a little blissful," said Donnie Nelson, the team's president of basketball operations in '06 and still today. "Eventually, we did get caught up in (thoughts of winning). Then that opportunity was ripped away. We didn't understand how bad it was going to be."

How bad was it?

Dallas lost in the first round of the playoffs three of the last four years. Nelson and Cuban kept surrounding Nowitzki with older players, many past their prime. This season, the entire lot of them has a total of zero rings. They also are mostly in their 30s and veterans of at least 10 NBA seasons—guys like Jason Kidd, who has been to two NBA finals; or Shawn Marion and Peja Stojakovic, who in their prime were key players on perennial contenders that couldn't get out of the conference finals.

"Every second-place guy goes through this, whether it's the Olympics or minor league baseball," Nelson said. "You've got to go through that pain. What it does, it creates an insatiable hunger. It forces you to be non-emotional about the moment because you will not allow yourself to get your hopes up. ... When someone steals your car or your girlfriend, you seldom get a second chance. For us to get a second chance, in this fashion, it's really unique."

The wait has felt interminable to Mavs fans because the club hasn't even been close since 2006.

Dallas has been KO'd in the first round of the playoffs three of the last four years, winning a single series the other time.

Whenever they were bounced, Nowitzki would shrug and say it didn't matter the round because they're all lost seasons if they don't end in a title. That same we-ain't-done-nothing-yet vibe has spread across the locker room.

"We addressed it today," Nowitzki said Saturday.

Nowitzki also talked about

a video that showed Dwyane Wade and LeBron James appearing to mock the Mavs star for his recent sinus infection.

Wade said he really did cough and turned it into a generic joke specifically because cameras were rolling. He and James blamed others for trying to make a big deal out of it.

While Nowitzki called it "a little childish, a little ignorant," he also brought up that nothing as silly as that will matter Sunday night.

"We're one win away from my dream, what I've worked on for half of my life," he said. "This is all I'm focusing on."

James says he's focused

MIAMI (AP) — The hammer Dirk Nowitzki is so close to escaping is pounding away harder than ever at LeBron James.

The Dallas Mavericks are a victory from claiming the title that James came to Miami to win. It would forever alter Nowitzki's reputation, which has already been elevated enormously during this series as he's ignored injury and illness.

And James is now the target of all the criticism Nowitzki long endured, the one shouldering most of the blame as things go wrong.

"That's just a part of the game if you're the star or the face of the franchise," Nowitzki said Saturday. "If you win, it's great for you, and everybody looks at you. And if you lose, you're going to get hammered. It's just part of the business. I think we understand that, we've been around long enough. I got the hammered the last 13 years, basically. So hopefully this year I can make the hammering go away for a year."

He has two shots at it. The Mavs can win their first title Sunday night, or Tuesday if the Heat force a seventh game.

That would require a stronger effort from James, who this time a year ago was coming off his second straight MVP award and was three weeks from becoming among the most sought-after free agents in sports history.

Now he's the guy who can't

produce in the fourth quarters, with 11 total points in five games, the one with the big name but the puny stats who had to spend part of his off day answer all sorts of questions about what's happened to him.

■ Are those 44 minutes per game you're playing too much? "I wouldn't say it's too much. I don't think so," James said. "I don't feel like I'm hurting my team for the time I'm out there. I don't feel like it's too much."

■ Is something wrong with your shot technique?

"At this point, I don't think technique has anything to do with it," James said. "Shots go in, shots don't go in. I don't stop to think about my technique or anything like that."

■ Are you simply feeling the pressure of the finals stage?

"I think the game of basketball can be pressure," James said. "It doesn't matter if it's the finals or the conference finals or first round. Playoff basketball is all about pressure, how you can handle it."

James did allow that perhaps he hasn't been as aggressive in the fourth quarter because Dwyane Wade has been playing so well. Wade is averaging 28.4 points—11 more than James, who also trails Chris Bosh.

"He's one of the best players in the world," Wade said. "So we're not necessarily concerned about him to that extent. I want him to play and feel confident."

Karlsson leads, looking for 1st PGA Tour win



MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — With 18 holes left, too much golf remains for Robert Karlsson to worry about a couple of late bogeys.

Karlsson looked ready to run away from the field Saturday, leading by five strokes on the back nine at the St. Jude Classic. The Swede closed with his only bogeys of the day on the final two holes and finished with a 2-under 68 that dropped him to 11 under, one stroke ahead of Harrison Frazier through three rounds in this final U.S. Open tuneup.

"I'm very, very happy with where I am at the moment. I mean you're going to make a mistake here and there," Karlsson said.

"Just keep doing what I'm doing. I mean it's a 72-hole golf tournament. It's a long, long way to go still, and ... I'm very happy with where I'm standing and let's go from there."

Frazier said he thought Karlsson was in total control of the tournament so he focused only on playing. He got hot and birdied three of his final four holes to finish with a 64 that got him

to 10 under. That included rolling in a 42-footer for birdie on No. 18 on a similar line to a putt he had last year. He even waved his caddie off. Frazier was so confident he had the right line.

"Went right in the center, jumped in there like a rabbit," Frazier said.

John Merrick (67) is third, followed by Retief Goosen, who turned in the best 18-hole score this week at TPC Southwind before being matched by Frazier. Fredrik Jacobson (68) and Keegan Bradley (70) are tied for fifth.

The 41-year-old Karlsson is in his first full year on the PGA Tour after earning an exemption by finishing in the top 125 on the money list with 11 events in 2010. That included a second-place finish here a year ago, when he lost a four-hole playoff to Lee Westwood in his best showing yet on the tour.

He is trying to become the seventh first-time winner on tour this year and the first player to win his first title in Memphis since Dicky Pride in 1994.

"I'm in the last group and have a great chance of getting out there tomorrow and play golf," Karlsson said. "I'm look-

ing forward to that."

Karlsson is no stranger to closing out tournaments. He has won 11 times on the European Tour and has yet shoot over par on this course in seven rounds.

"Robert looks like he's not going to fall back," Goosen said. "Playing really solid. Need to get another round like this in tomorrow to get a chance to catch him."

Of course, Goosen made his remarks before Karlsson's final two holes.

Karlsson was leading by four until he bogeyed No. 17 after sticking his approach into a greenside bunker. He blasted out to 14 feet and just missed the par putt. Frazier finished up on 18 with his big birdie putt, and Karlsson's second shot on the final hole landed well right of the green.

With water on the other side, Karlsson's chip bounced once and stopped in the longer grass short of the green. Trying to save par, he came up 2 feet short and settled for a bogey that trimmed his lead to a mere stroke.

"You need to land it short, and I probably hit it a bit too soft. Wanted a one-bounce and just pop up and probably hit it

6 feet too short," Karlsson said.

The TPC Southwind has been playing fairly tough for everyone but Karlsson, with the Champion Bermuda greens baked enough from temperatures in the mid-90s to make them almost crusty.

The 6-foot-5 Karlsson posted pars on his first two holes and put distance between himself and playing partners Colt Knost and Bradley almost immediately.

Merrick gave chase with three straight birdies, his third moving him to 8 under and just a stroke behind Karlsson. That was the closest anyone else got until the end of the round.

Karlsson got his first birdie with a 3-footer on the par-5 third and birdied No. 4 to push his lead back to three at 11 under. He rolled in a 35-footer for birdie on the par-4 sixth for a four-stroke lead that was the biggest this week until Merrick bogeyed No. 7 to make it five.

With the lead, Karlsson just methodically worked his way around the course. He two-putted from 41 feet on No. 10, knocking down a 6-footer for par. He two-putted from 36 feet on the par-3 14th.

Panama stuns US in Gold Cup, 2-1



TAMPA, Fla. (AP) —

A slow start doomed the United States against Panama, slowing the Americans' usual march to the quarterfinals of the Gold Cup.

Instead, the surprising Panamanians guaranteed themselves a spot in the next round of the tournament with a 2-1 victory over the favored U.S. on Saturday night.

"Sometimes you just come out flat for whatever reason. At this level, and against a good team, you can't do that," U.S. star Landon Donovan said, reflecting on the Americans falling behind by two goals in the opening half. "Some nights you come out flat and you don't get punished, but other nights you do. We learned a valuable lesson."

Luis Tejada scored in the 19th minute and Gabriel Gomez converted a penalty kick later in the first half for Panama, which won for the first time in nine meetings with the Americans, who had never lost a match in the group stage of any Gold Cup.

"First of all, give Panama a



AP
Panama goalkeeper Jaime Penedo (1) punches the ball past teammate Roman Torres (5) and United States defenders Clarence Goodson (21) and Carlos Bocanegra (yellow armband) during the second half of a CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match on Saturday, June 11, 2011, in Tampa, Fla.

lot of credit. They started the game well. They put us on our heels at times," Donovan said. "It took us a while to get into the game. Our second half was very good, but when you dig yourself a hole that huge, sometimes you can't get out."

Despite the loss, the U.S. can clinch a spot in the quarterfinals of the tournament that determines the champion for North and Central America and the Caribbean by beating Guadeloupe in its final Group C stage match Tuesday night in Kansas City.

Tejada finished a sequence that began with Nelson Barahona's free kick, tapping in a rebound after U.S. goalkeeper Tim Howard lunged to get on a hand on Armando Cooper's header from left of the net. American Tim Ream's foul set up Gomez's penalty kick, which the Panamanian lifted over the diving Howard for a 2-0 lead in the 36th minute.

Clarence Goodson gave the U.S. hope for a dramatic comeback, scoring in the 68th minute. The Americans had a couple of opportunities pull even, but Chris Wondolowski missed

and Alexi Casilla had three hits and scored two runs, leading Minnesota over Texas.

Delmon Young had three hits and two RBIs for the Twins, who have won eight of 11.

Tigers 8, Mariners 1

At Detroit, Max Scherzer found his form after three rocky starts, Austin Jackson tripled twice and Detroit beat Seattle to move within one percentage point of first-place Cleveland in the AL Central after being as many as eight games behind in early May.

Rays 7, Orioles 5, 11 innings

At Baltimore, Ben Zobrist got four extra-base hits and scored four runs, including the tiebreaker in the 11th inning on a single by Tampa Bay's Evan Longoria.

Longoria had three RBIs and Casey Kotchman went 4 for 6 with two RBIs for the Rays.

White Sox 3, Athletics 2

At Chicago, Brent Lillibridge helped make John Danks a winner with a homer-saving catch in the eighth inning, and the White Sox beat Oakland.

Lillibridge robbed Oakland's Coco Crisp with a leaping catch above the wall. That turned out to be the last batter Danks (2-8) faced.

Angels 7, Royals 5

At Anaheim, Erick Aybar opened the scoring with a bases-loaded triple, Bobby Abreu (notes) came home with the go-ahead run on reliever Aaron Crow's second wild pitch of the seventh inning, and Los Angeles beat Kansas City to snap a season-worst six-game losing streak.

a wide-open net in the 80th minute and Jaime Penedo made two of his six saves in injury time to help Panama hang on before a crowd of 27,731.

"In the first half as the game was developing, we had the ball a lot but we weren't able to take advantage of some situations," U.S. coach Bob Bradley said.

"What you don't want to do in that situation is go down a goal. You just want to keep doing a good job controlling the ball, controlling the game with the idea that opportunities will come. You put yourself behind, you make it much more difficult."

The loss was just the second for the Americans in their past 21 Gold Cup games. They had been 6-0-2 against Panama, with all the meetings coming in Gold Cup or World Cup qualifying.

Despite defeating Panama in the past three Gold Cups, the Americans stressed they could not overlook the Panamanians because each of those games had been close.

The teams played to a scoreless draw in the 2005 final, with the U.S. winning a penalty shootout to take the championship. They met in the quarter-

finals in 2007 and 2009, with Panama losing 2-1 each time.

Panama coach Julio Dely Valdes said through a translator that the victory was especially gratifying because of the effort that went into finally getting over the hump against the Americans.

"We worked very hard for it," the coach said. "I'm absolutely happy because we made history."

The U.S. began the tourney with a 2-0 win over Canada, but wasn't near as sharp in falling behind the aggressive Panamanians, who used their quickness and athletic ability to create numerous opportunities.

Panama opened with a 3-2 victory over Guadeloupe and beating the Americans gave it consecutive Gold Cup wins for the first time.

Donovan said it was just a matter of time before a team as talented as Panama had some success against the U.S.

"CONCACAF teams are getting better and better. It's a pretty good team we played against," Donovan said. "It's disappointing, but the reality is it's over now. ... We've got to win Tuesday, see what else happens and see where we end up. We're still fine."

Cliff Lee leads Phillies over Cubs



PHILADELPHIA (AP) —

Chase Utley homered and drove in four runs to back Cliff Lee's eight strong innings and lead the Philadelphia Phillies to a 7-1 win over the Chicago Cubs on Saturday.

Lee (6-5) passed teammate Roy Halladay for the league lead in strikeouts, recording seven to up his season total to 107. He allowed four hits and one run while walking two.

Utley gave Philadelphia the early lead with a two-run double in the first and provided some insurance with a two-run homer in the eighth. Shane Victorino had three hits, scored three runs and drove in one.

Reds 10, Giants 2

At San Francisco, Mike Leake pitched eight scoreless innings and also got two hits off Tim Lincecum as Cincinnati gave the San Francisco ace one of his worst beatings ever.

Brandon Phillips hit a two-run double and scored twice and Joey Votto knocked the two-time Cy Young Award winner out with an RBI double in the fifth to give the Reds their second win in three games in San Francisco.

Brewers 5, Cardinals 3

At Milwaukee, Rickie Weeks hit a go-ahead, two-run homer and Zack Greinke outpitched fellow Cy Young Award winner Chris Carpenter to lift Milwaukee over St. Louis.

The surging Brewers (37-28) pulled within a half-game of St. Louis for the NL Central lead.

Pirates 3, Mets 2

At Pittsburgh, James McDonald allowed two runs in six innings, Andrew McCutchen hit a two-run double as Pittsburgh beat New York.

Garrett Jones had an RBI double off knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (3-7), who tossed a complete game for the Mets.

Braves 6, Astros 3, 10 innings

At Houston, Brian McCann hit a three-run homer in the 10th inning, lifting Atlanta over Houston for its fifth straight victory.

McCann's shot to right field off Brandon Lyon (3-3) scored Jordan Schafer and Dan Uggla to give him 501 career RBIs.

Diamondbacks 9, Marlins 5

At Miami, Kelly Johnson's three-run double highlighted a six-run fourth inning and Arizona sent Florida to its ninth loss in 10 games.

Ryan Roberts and Stephen Drew each hit a solo homer in support of Ian Kennedy (7-2), who gave up five runs and eight hits in eight innings.

Nationals 2, Padres 1

At San Diego, John Lannan pitched effectively into the seventh inning and Washington beat San Diego to win consecutive road games for the first time in a month.

Lannan (4-5) allowed highly touted rookie Anthony Rizzo's first major league homer and escaped a bases-loaded jam in the sixth. The left-hander gave

up six hits.

Dodgers 11, Rockies 7

At Denver, pinch-hitter Casey Blake broke a tie with a three-run double in the sixth, Ted Lilly pitched five effective innings and Los Angeles ended a three-game losing streak.

Aaron Miles and Jamey Carroll each had four hits as the Dodgers banged out a season-high 18.

Red Sox 16, Jays 4

At Toronto, John Lackey made up for a terrible first start in Toronto this season, No. 9 hitter Jason Varitek homered and drove in four runs and the Boston Red Sox routed the Toronto Blue Jays 16-4 on Saturday.

Lackey (4-5) delivered six strong innings in his second start since going on the disabled list after giving up nine runs in 6 2-3 innings against the Blue Jays on May 11.

Yankees 4, Indians 0

At New York, Alex Rodriguez was hit by a pitch after he homered, Bartolo Colon tossed two-hit ball into the seventh inning before getting hurt and New York beat Cleveland on a misty, windy afternoon.

Curtis Granderson hit his 20th homer to tie for the major league lead and Rodriguez got plunked by Indians starter Mitch Talbot a day after the benches cleared.

Twins 8, Rangers 1

At Minneapolis, Scott Baker pitched a five-hitter for his fourth career complete game

Ruler on Ice wins Belmont Stakes



NEW YORK (AP) —

Kentucky Derby

winner Animal Kingdom nearly fell at the start. Preakness winner Shackleford faded in the stretch. The Belmont Stakes was up for grabs.

And it was 24-1 long shot Ruler on Ice who delivered a huge upset Saturday in the final leg of the Triple Crown, splashing his way to a three-quarter length victory over Stay Thirsty.

As expected, Shackleford led from the start but when the field of 12 turned for home in the 1 1/2-mile Belmont, he tired in the muck as long shots Ruler On Ice and Stay Thirsty passed him by.

"Ruler wasn't slowing down," winning jockey Jose Valdivia Jr. said. "It was a great feeling the last sixteenth of a mile."

The much-hyped rubber match between Shackleford and Animal Kingdom never developed on a rainy day at Belmont Park. Shackleford finished fifth, while Animal Kingdom had a frightful start, never moved into contention and finished sixth.

Jockey John Velazquez nearly fell off Animal Kingdom when the horse was bumped on his right side by Mucho Macho Man just after the start. He somehow managed to get his left foot back into the stirrup, but by then it was too late. Animal

Kingdom had dropped more than 13 lengths off the lead, and did well to finish in the middle of the pack.

Barry Irwin, president of Animal Kingdom owner Team Valor International, took to his Facebook page later to criticize Isn't He Perfect, blaming the last-place finisher for starting the chain reaction that took his horse out of the race.

"Mud didn't cost AK the Belmont," Irwin wrote. "At the break, Isn't He Perfect came over at the break, intimidated

Mucho Macho Man, who slammed into Animal Kingdom so hard that our colt nearly went down. Our jockey lost his left iron, which was not corrected until the turn. We never had a chance. Isn't He Perfect

had no business being in this race and he screwed it up for a lot of horses today. Classics are no place for amateurs."

An elated Valdivia, riding in his first Belmont, described the final seconds of the race while on the gallop back to the winner's circle.

"I'm a couple of yards from the wire and I'm thinking, 'Oh my god, oh my god, I'm going to win the Belmont,'" he said.

A crowd of 55,779 turned out hoping to see a stretch showdown between Animal Kingdom and Shackleford—the first Derby vs. Preakness winners in the Belmont in six years. But that vanished once the Derby winner was knocked around in a bad bit of racing luck.

Inchcape, Armatech advance

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Inchcape and Armatech survived the first round of the playoffs in the 4th Annual Miller Lite Friendly Basketball League after beating separate foes on Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Inchcape battled from behind for most of the game and then stepped up big in the fourth quarter to oust Ebisuya Fixers, 71-67. In the second game in the single-elimination playoffs, Armatech knocked

off Brabu Pharmacy, 91-84.

The Fixers were eliminated despite shooting ahead, 18-8, behind their solid defense and a couple of late three-pointers by Jawn Joyner and Chris Lansang.

Inchcape fought back in the second quarter and managed a slim 27-26 edge at halftime. Kae Bernardo and Bart Demapan led the team's recovery, as they combined for 13 markers in the second period.

In the third period, the Fixers roared back and pulled ahead, 49-42. Joyner and Jun Abedes tallied eight points apiece in the third quarter to help the Fixers

reclaim the driver's seat

However, Bernardo and Demapan teamed up anew in another Inchcape uprising with the former delivering 15 points in the payoff canto and the latter adding 11 to steal the win.

Bernardo led all scorers with 30 points, while Joyner turned in a team-high 21 in the loss.

In the second game, Armatech led from start to finish to eliminate Brabu.

Elmer Esdrelon scored five points in the opening period to give Armatech a 14-10 advantage.

Then Armatech stretched its

lead to 34-29 at the half, as Ivan Devero nailed six quick points to start the second quarter and Esdrelon closed the period with five more markers.

Armatech kept its distance at the end of the third frame, 60-53. Then in the fourth quarter, J.R. Ngeskebei and Elmer Esdrelon combined for 13 points with the latter hitting five free throws in the closing minutes to secure the win. Esdrelon finished with 26 points, while Brabu's Randy Mungcal came out with a game-high 28 on the short end.

The Miller Lite playoffs will continue tomorrow tonight with Armatech taking on Mobil at 6pm and Soul Jazz bat-

ting Inchcape at 8pm.

Second Game

Inchcape 71— Bernardo 30, Demapan 21, Pantaleon 9, Tabora 8, Mallari 2.

Fixers 67— Joyner 21, Abedes 16, Bicera 7, Artates 6, Wesley 6, Lansang 5, C. Camacho 4, Cosino 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-18, 27-26, 42-49, 71-67.

Sonics gain share of QQ Cup lead

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Sonics held off Mobil's fourth-quarter

rally to pull off a 78-76 win during their game in the 2011 QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup Invitational League on Friday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The Sonics now have a 6-1 record to tie Blue Haus in first place. Mobil fell to a 5-3 slate for third place, half a game behind second-running Smart Cagers (5-2).

Trailing at 64-58, entering the final canto, Mobil rallied behind the 15 points of Jun Estolas. However, Estolas fouled out in the closing minutes of the game and Mobil was held to three points in the homestretch, allowing Sonics to save the win.

Mobil jumped in front early, 26-17, behind Marvin Rabauliman's eight points in the opening quarter. Then Sonics battled back and took the lead at the break, 43-35, as Lorio Pagarrao and Jung Wong teamed up for 15 markers in the second quarter.

Winners in the tournament that will run starting today until Friday will represent the North Team to the 2011 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships and the Oceania Closed Junior Championships in Fiji in August.

Besides host Guam and Palau, the CNMI bets will be battling tennis players from the Federated States of Micronesia.

Only the Top 2 finishers in the

U18 age group and Top 4 in the

U15 and U12 will earn slots on

the North Pacific Team.

Mobil hung around in the second half, but the Sonics maintained the lead after three periods and survived the former's rally in the final canto.

Estolas led all scorers with 26 points, while Pagarrao paced the Sonics trio in double figures with 15.

In the first match, Rollers

Madness' Ivan De Vero explod-

ed for 37 points to lift his team to an 85-68 rout of Prospects.

Madness improved to a 2-5 card to place ahead of sister-team Rollers Happiness (0-6) and Prospects (0-7) in the standings.

Manny Matagolai started things out for Rollers, burying three long balls in the first period for their 23-22 lead. Then Madness went ahead, 41-38, at midpoint behind Devero's 10 points.

Prospects' defense stepped up the second half, as it contained Madness to just 11 markers to pull within one, 51-52, heading into the last quarter.

However, Madness kicked in high-gear at crunch time, as Devero caught fire in the clutch with 16 points.

First Game

Rollers Madness 85— Devero 37, Matagolai 14, Reyes 10, Hambros 8, Rasa 5, Lisua 4, Ulloa 4, Babauta 3.

Prospects 68— Inos 25, Sa- plan 17, D. Aughenbaugh 14, Ortes 10.

Scoring by quarters: 23-22, 41-38, 52-51, 85-68

Second Game

Sonics 78— Pagarrao 15, Galarse 13, Wong 13, Babillo 10, P. Lizama 8, Chan 7, E. Camacho 4, Eclavia 4, Santos 3, Tudela 1.

Mobil 76— Estolas 26, Rabauliman 17, Maratita 10, Ruluked 13, Gamboa 6, Sharry 3, Fernando 1.

Scoring by quarters: 17-26, 43-35, 64-58, 78-76

purpose sports complex is a way of living up to their father's teachings.

"Our father always taught us to give back to the community and we hope that through supporting sports and building these facilities, we are able to follow his example," Raymond said.

White, who also had a chance to deliver a brief message during the ceremony, said the complex is a welcome addition to the CNMI sports community, especially now that the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium is under renovation.

"These are wonderful facilities and we will all benefit from them. We would like to thank Tan Holdings for their continued support to the community," White said.

Other officials from various sports associations and business community and badminton and football players also attended the opening ceremony, which had Century Insurance Corp. president Dave Sablan as emcee.

CNMI jr. netters start NPQ bid today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roeslyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The last bulk of CNMI junior tennis players participating in the 2011 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament left Saipan yesterday morning in time for the start of the competition in Guam today.

The group is composed of Jazmin Rayphand, Carol Lee, Alina Ishikawa, Chris Cajigan, Luther Lizama, Jake Lee, Carl dela Cruz, and Amami Sakano. They were accompanied by CNMI coach Jeff Race are expected to reunite with other team members Rafael Jones, Thea and Theecel Minor, Christian Miller, Angelo Jones, Seiya Eda, Mikayla Lopez, Melody Johnson, Moris Villanueva, Colin Ramsey, Michael Ren, Michael Jones, Negahr Rastguy, Tammy Ackerman, and Emily Jones.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CNMI coach Jeff Race poses with his players before they leave for Guam yesterday morning to compete in the 2011 North Pacific Qualifying tournament.

Race is positive that the very prepared CNMI Junior Team will dominate the NPQ anew.

"I am confident that we can top five of the six events in the NPQ, as our players have been playing great and solid tennis as

shown in our past tournaments," Race said.

The NPQ will feature competitions in the boys and girls U12, U15, and U18 age groups.

Race said the CNMI's toughest event will be the

of the cage and began whaling away at each other. Fitial came out on top of the exchanges by using his speed and reach advantages and kept himself a moving target for Martinez. The third ended with Fitial unleashing a flurry on the former champ.

Martinez shot out of his corner like a cannon at the start of the fourth round, but ended up losing his balance at one point allowing an easy takedown by Fitial.

Fitial controlled the top position from there and dealt out some brutal ground and pound strikes that ultimately led to the referee stepping in and calling it off. After the stoppage, Fitial

was still in one piece, while Martinez was badly beaten with his face covered with blood.

After his triumph in Manila, Fitial is expected to return to Saipan this week to support his fellow Marianas Elite fighters in Trench Tech Purebred Promotions' Trench Warz 14 - Ground Zero that will be held on Friday night at the Saipan World Resort.

Meanwhile, in other results, Martinez's teammates "Baby" Joe Taimanglo (11-4-1) and Ricky Camp (2-0) both notched wins earlier in the evening.

Taimanglo notched his fifth win in a row since September

2009 after securing a first round submission over Korean newcomer Young Jun Kim.

Camp came out with win No. 2 against the Philippines' Carlos Tiongson (3-2) in the first bout of the night.

Counter Shot MMA's Josh "The Hedgehog" Alvarez (6-3) sank in a rear naked choke on former Philippine boxer Rogelito Plomeda (2-2), while Ground Fu's Tony Reyes (5-2) and Guahan Top Team's Alex Castro (6-9) lost to Roland Perez (7-4-1) of Alliance MMA and Harris "The Hit-man" Sarmiento (32-22) of Hawaii's 808 Fight Factory, respectively.

Brewers then stranded runners at first and second to start the eighth inning and the Angels' bats awoke in the bottom frame where they stole the lead off six hits in the clutch. The Brewers would give up one more hit for the late meltdown and folded 1-2-3 in their final stand.

Tomokane batted 2-for-4 with three RBIs, two runs and a base on balls for the Angels. Taisacan swang 2-for-4 with two RBIs, a base on balls, and a stolen base, while Celis went 3-for-5 with an RBI.

FITAL

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promise of beating Martinez.

Both fighters stood and banged for the first two rounds. Martinez connected with a few big shots early, but Fitial used his longer reach to prevent his foes from getting inside.

Half way through the second round, Martinez's eye was almost swollen shut, however he managed a takedown and got in some nice blows before the bell.

Then at the start of the third, the fighters met at the center

ANGELS

From Page 28

off an error, 7-7. Tomokane saw daylight from third base and made a break to the plate. He got a good jump, but incidentally, the outfield throw home sailed over the head of Brewers' catcher Manny Sablan.

The Angels did not stop there, as Dave Camacho stepped in next and ripped another base hit and trotted home soon after off the go-ahead single by Taisacan.

The pennant champion won

which set up a two-RBI base hit by Peter Tomokane and an RBI single by Benwachi Taisacan.

Brewers drew a blank to start the sixth where both teams opted for pitching changes. The Angels tapped Franco Flores for Dung Tenorio, while Kapileo relieved Vince Cepeda for the Brewers.

The Brewers still led, 7-5, after the seventh, as Kaipat hammered a one-out double in the top half and made it around off errors. The Angels got it back in the bottom from a drive by Roy Celis that brought home Tomokane.

reclaim the driver's seat

First Game

Inchcape 71— Bernardo 30, Demapan 21, Pantaleon 9, Tabora 8, Mallari 2.

Fixers 67— Joyner 21, Abedes 16, Bicera 7, Artates 6, Wesley 6, Lansang 5, C. Camacho 4, Cosino 2.

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By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



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rally to pull off a 78-76 win during their game in the 2011 QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup Invitational League on Friday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

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In the first match, Rollers

Madness' Ivan De Vero explod-

TSL

From Page 28

facility. Then I started looking around our company's facility to see if there is something I could do to help," Tan said.

There is an available facility in Middle Road and initially

Weekend Sports

Chelsea coaches, CNMI sluggers in spotlight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The best-of-five championship series in the Saipan Major League and the clinics conducted by officials from Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong) were among the crowd drawing events on Saipan last week.

Baseball fans trooped to the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield and witnessed the St.

Michael Angels move a win away from wrapping up the short title showdown against the Tan Holdings Brewers after posting back-to-back wins.

The Brewers drew first blood winning Game 1 on Monday night, 9-4, but lost momentum when the Angles took Games 2, 13-4, and 3, 9-7. Game 4 will be played tonight and the Brewers are in a must win situation to force a deciding Game 5 on Wednesday.

Over at the Oleai Sports Complex Field, three officials from Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong) conducted clinics for U15, U18, men's and women's players, and coaches of various football clubs on Saipan.

Lending their expertise to the CNMI were former Hong Kong football star Leslie George Santos, head coach Kwon On "David" Tsui, and technical director Luam Khen Koo.

Other notable events last

week were the 10th Annual HANMI Charity Golf Classic Tournament, Mt. Tapochau Bike Club's Lung Buster Bike Race, the opening of the 2011 IT&E Singles/Doubles Badminton Tournament, recognition ceremony for the 2010-2011 season of Tsunami Saipan at the Public School System's elementary division slow-pitch softball championship.

Jason Yi topped the Championship Flight of the HANMI

Cup, while other champions were A Flight's J.J. Atalig, B's John Cepeda, C's Suk Joo Park, Seniors' Judge Edward Manibusan, and Ladies' Leina Kim.

In the Lung Buster Race, Butch Sublemente ruled the long course, while Gary Bandaja and Charlie Sendin tied for first in the short one.

In the IT&E badminton tournament, more than 100 players joined the competition, while Koblerville and Kagman el-

ementary schools reigned in the girls and boys divisions of the softball finals.

Other on-going leagues on Saipan continued with the Miller Lite and Blue Haus cagings having their games at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court and the QQ Cup playing their regular season matches at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Over at the Capital Hill Ballfield, the Chamolinian softball league started its playoff round.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Chelsea FC Soccer School technical director Leslie George Santos, right, teaches U15 players dribbling skills during a clinic last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Jason Yi, right, receives his prize from HANMI chair Nick Nishikawa during the awards ceremony for the HANMI Cup last week at Saipan Grand Hotel.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ken Pierson smiles as he nears the finish line of the Mt. Tapochau Bike Club's Lung Buster Bike Race last week.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Rollers' Ivan De Vero, left, goes for a tough shot against Konflikt's Jawn Joyner during their game in the QQ Cup last week at the Garapan Basketball Court.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
A St. Michael Angels batter waits for the pitch during Game 2 of their SML best-of-five title series against the Tan Holdings Brewers last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura, center, poses with Coach's Award recipients Yuuki Nishida, left, and Daime Rivera during the club's recognition ceremony at Marianas Resort.

Rose Lazaro goes for a volley against Kim Boranah during the opening game in the IT&E badminton tournament at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Rose Lazaro goes for a volley against Kim Boranah during the opening game in the IT&E badminton tournament at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex last week.



One win from title, Mavs not getting excited yet

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Chelsea coaches, CNMI slingers in spotlight

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28 MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011

Fitial scores TKO win over Martinez

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Saipan's Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial notched a fourth-round TKO win over Guam's Roque Martinez during their heavyweight bout in the Pacific Xtreme Combat 24 on Saturday night at the Resorts World Manila's Newport Performing Arts Theater in the Philippines.

Fitial, who improved his win-loss draw record to 12-6-2, dominated the anticipated rematch over Spike 22's Martinez (5-4-1) and resolved once and for all the de-

bate of PXC 22-Battle For The Belt's controversial draw decision that offset the Marianas Elite bet's four-win streak.

Fitial came down the aisle with a red Mohawk and got to work right away, fulfilling his

See FITIAL on Page 26

Angels move closer to SML title



The St. Michael's Angels Dave Camacho swings during the bottom of the eighth inning of Game 3 of their best-of-five finals series in the 2011 Saipan Major League against the Tan Holdings Brewers on Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The St. Michael's Angels mustered a four-run rally in the eighth inning to pull off a 9-7 win against the Tan Holdings Brewers in Game 3 of their best-of-five finals series in the 2011 Saipan Major League on Friday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

See ANGELS on Page 26



Kelvin Fitial hoists the PXC heavyweight belt after beating Guam's Roque Martinez in Pacific Xtreme Combat 24 on Saturday night at the Resorts World Manila's Newport Performing Arts Theater in the Philippines.

TSL Sports Complex inaugurated

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Tan Siu Lin Sports Complex formally opened on Saturday, offering the sports community an alternative venue for its competitive and recreational tournaments.

The TSL Sports Complex has

badminton, basketball, and futsal courts.

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan led the opening rites of the complex and was joined by twin brother Raymond and Tan Siu Lin himself in the ceremonial ribbon cutting. Tan Siu Lin is the Tan Holdings board chair and father of

Raymond and Jerry Tan. Also participating in the ceremony were NMASA president Michael White, Barrigada Mayor Jessie B. Palican, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, and Rep. Edmund Villagomez.

Jerry Tan during his opening remarks shared to those present at the opening rites how

Tan Holdings came up with the idea of building a multi-purpose sports complex.

"About 10 months ago when we were done with planning for the TAGA Sports magazine, I was thinking of another project for 2011. Then I observed the daily rain that caused many cancellations of basketball games, so I realized that Saipan needs indoor

See TSL on Page 26



From left, Raymond Tan, Barrigada Mayor Jessie Palican, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, Rep. Edmund Villagomez, Tan Holdings board chair Tan Siu Lin, NMASA president Michael White, and Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan cut the ribbon during the opening of the Tan Siu Lin Sports Complex in Middle Road last Saturday.